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7

8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
9 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
10

11 HIDDEN EMPIRE HOLDINGS, LLC;
a Delaware limited liability company;
12 HYPER ENGINE, LLC; a California
limited liability company; DEON
13 TAYLOR, an individual,

14 Plaintiffs,

15 v.

16 DARRICK ANGELONE, an
individual; AONE CREATIVE, LLC
formerly known as AONE
17 ENTERTAINMENT LLC, a Florida
limited liability company; ON CHAIN
18 INNOVATIONS, LLC, a Florida
limited liability company,
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20 Defendants.
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Case No. 2:22-cv-06515-MWF-AGR
Action Filed: September 12, 2022

Assigned to Honorable
Judge Michael W. Fitzgerald

**DECLARATION OF DEFENDANT
DARRICK ANGELONE IN
OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS'
MOTION FOR SUMMARY
JUDGMENT**

DATE: August 18, 2025
TIME: 10:00am
DEPT: 5A

[Filed Concurrently with Defendants'
Memorandum of Points and Authorities
in Opposition to Plaintiffs'
Motion for Summary Judgment;
Declaration of Sandra Calin in Support
of Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiffs'
Motion for Summary Judgment;
Declaration of Rick J. Watts in
Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion for
Summary Judgment]

1 I, DARRICK ANGELONE, hereby declare as follows:

2 1. I am one of the Defendants in the above-captioned case. I have personal
3 knowledge of the following facts and, if called upon as a witness, could competently
4 testify thereto, except as to those matters which are explicitly set forth as based upon
5 my information and belief and, as to such matters, I am informed and believe that they
6 are true and correct.

7 2. I submit this declaration in opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Partial
8 Summary Judgment (hereinafter, the "Motion"). (dkt. 187)

9 **The Declaration of Roxanne Taylor Is Riddled With Factual Inaccuracies**
10 **and Misrepresentations**

11 3. I categorically dispute Roxanne Taylor's claim in her declaration (dkt.
12 187-2; hereinafter, the "R.Taylor Decl.") that I have "never been an ... owner of ...
13 Hyper Engine." The following ownership records drafted and produced by Plaintiffs
14 themselves illustrate otherwise:

15 a. 2018 Operating Agreement. The March 1, 2018 Operating
16 Agreement for Hyper Engine, LLC ("Hyper Engine") lists me (through
17 AOne Creative) as a 16.66 % member alongside Robert Smith,
18 Deon Taylor, and Roxanne Taylor. This agreement was signed by
19 Roxanne Taylor. A true and correct copy of the abovementioned 2018
20 Hyper Engine operating agreement is attached hereto as **Exhibit "A"**.

21 b. 2019 Operating Agreement. After Hyper Engine was suspended
22 by the California FTB, the parties circulated and executed an updated
23 agreement between October and December 2019. The final version,
24 signed by Deon Taylor and dated December 1, 2019, allocates 33.33 %
25 ownership to AOne Entertainment (my company) and 66.67 % to
26 Hidden Empire Film Group. A true and correct copy of the
27 abovementioned 2019 Hyper Engine operating agreement is attached
28 hereto as **Exhibit "B"**.

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1 c. Bank signature documents. Hyper Engine’s September 2019
2 Bank of the West Business Debit Card Enrollment form lists me as an
3 “Authorized Representative/Cardholder” together with Roxanne Taylor.
4 Signature card packets forwarded by HEFG staff on September 21, 2019
5 include my individual debit card enrollment (“darrick debit card
6 enrollment.pdf”). A true and correct copy of said Bank of the West Debit
7 Card Enrollment form is attached hereto as **Exhibit “C”**.

8 d. My contemporaneous text message to Deon Taylor. On August
9 22, 2022 I texted Deon: “You and Roxanne set up bank accounts and
10 cards in my name for Hyper Engine ... [and] filed [an] operating
11 agreement ... listing me as a partner.” Plaintiffs attach that very message
12 as Exhibit 22 to the Declaration of Deon Taylor (Dkt 193.) Plaintiffs
13 mischaracterize the text as misconduct, but it is simply my own reminder
14 of the ownership structure they created and documented, and which they
15 are now attempting to repudiate.

16 4. The 2018 and 2019 Operating Agreements, the banking paperwork, and
17 my 2022 text all confirm that, since 2018, I have held a documented membership
18 interest in Hyper Engine, LLC. Any of Plaintiffs’ contentions to the contrary are false,
19 and hence a material dispute in this action.

20 5. I dispute Ms. Taylor’s claim that HEFG has “always”
21 owned hiddenempirefilmgroup.com (See R. Taylor Decl. at ¶¶ 7-8; Dkt. 187-2.)
22 Indeed, even Hidden Empire Holdings (“HEFG”) admits the 2014 lapse in ownership.
23 In the e-mail chain dated December 10-11, 2014 (R. Taylor Decl., Exh. 3), Roxanne
24 wrote: “It expired and I didn’t know and someone else bought the domain.” The thread
25 includes a public WHOIS lookup showing “nicolas ortega”—not HEFG—as
26 registrant.

27 6. After confirming the lapse, I purchased the domain on October 13, 2015
28 through Namecheap Order # 17608799. Thereafter, every annual renewal was paid

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1 from the same aoneent account. When HEFG exploited this domain for marketing
2 campaigns, it reimbursed only the out-of-pocket renewal fee shown on the
3 Namecheap receipts. However, Plaintiffs never (1) paid a transfer fee, (2) executed
4 an ICANN “change of registrant,” or (3) appeared as registrant on WHOIS. Despite
5 this, the domain was transferred to HEFG only after the Court’s September 30, 2022
6 Order re preliminary injunction. My compliance declaration dated October 13, 2022
7 (§ 21) confirms I transferred the domain to HEFG’s chosen domain registrar. Because
8 HEFG allowed its GoDaddy registration to lapse in 2014 and never re registered the
9 domain, Ms. Taylor’s assertion of uninterrupted ownership is inaccurate. From
10 October 13, 2015 until the Court ordered transfer in October 2022, I, through my
11 “aoneent” Namecheap account, was the lawful registrant/owner. Reimbursement of
12 renewal fees did not change that legal status.

13 7. In Paragraph 9 of her declaration, Ms. Taylor further makes three
14 incorrect and disputed claims that (1) Hidden Empire Film Group, LLC assigned the
15 2012 Agreement to Hidden Empire Holdings, LLC before suit was filed; (2) that the
16 Agreement “has not been amended, modified or terminated”; and (3) that HEFG has
17 “paid in full all of the invoices it has received from AOne.” All three assertions are
18 inaccurate or at least genuinely disputed. For one, the contract itself bars oral
19 assignments. Paragraph 14 of the 2012 Agreement provides: “Modifications of the
20 terms of this contract must be written and authorized by both parties.” Plaintiffs have
21 produced no signed assignment or amendment in discovery or with their MSJ filings.
22 Further, if the contract was “assigned,” that constitutes a modification requiring the
23 written consent mandated by Paragraph 14, directly contradicting Ms. Taylor’s
24 statement that the Agreement was “not modified.” Moreover, California Secretary of
25 State records show that Hidden Empire Film Group LLC is **suspended**, stating
26 clearly: “FTB SUSPENDED – 06/16/2016.” A suspended LLC lacks capacity to
27 assign contracts (See Cal. Rev. & Tax Code § 23301; Corp. Code § 17713.10(c)). Any
28 pre suit “assignment” is therefore void. A true and correct copy of a screenshot

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1 depicting Hidden Empire Film Group LLC's suspended status is attached hereto as
2 **Exhibit "D"**.

3 8. Additionally, the 2012 project called for by the 2012 agreement was
4 completed and closed out in 2013. Namely, on October 22, 2013, Deon Taylor e-
5 mailed me and Roxanne: "Please confirm the final amounts needed to close out the
6 online work." This email confirms the only deliverables under the 2012 agreement
7 (i.e., development of two websites) were finished, invoiced, and ready for final
8 payment. A true and correct copy of the aforementioned October 2013 email is
9 attached hereto as **Exhibit "E"**. The 2012 Agreement was therefore fully performed
10 and discharged by late 2013. Subsequent work orders did not amend the 2012
11 agreement or add any IP obligations. From 2015 onward, HEFG retained AOne only
12 for marketing support retainers (paid media buys, social media posting, e
13 mail/Workspace administration), which were well outside the scope of the 2012
14 agreement. Further, the "Independent contractor" clause (§ 15) is undisputed but
15 irrelevant. Both sides agree AOne operated as an independent contractor. This does
16 not resolve ownership of Hyper Engine or outstanding payables.

17 9. Contrary to Ms. Taylor's assertions, HEFG has not "paid in full" its
18 obligations. With respect to the May to Aug. 2022 invoices due to AOne, After HEFG
19 demanded AOne "stop/pause all services" in May 2022, AOne still provided hosting
20 and Workspace support through August 2022. Seven invoices were generated totaling
21 \$35,818.41, none of which have been paid.

22 10. Roxanne Taylor goes on to allege that in December 2012 I asked for
23 temporary GoDaddy access, and using that I kept the GoDaddy/Namecheap
24 credentials, moved the HEFG domain to Namecheap and secretly registered it in my
25 own name, and that I refuse to return the credentials such that HEFG cannot recover
26 its domain. However, Ms. Taylor's doubtful narrative omits the critical fact that
27 HEFG let the domain expire in 2014, and did not pay for a single renewal thereafter.
28 Ms. Taylor is equating one instance of temporary access with ongoing control. Yet,

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1 the December 3, 2012 e-mail chain referenced by Plaintiffs (R. Taylor Decl., Exh. 2)
2 demonstrates that I asked for temporary GoDaddy access solely to point an “A record”
3 at my dev server while I built HEFG’s website. I explicitly wrote: “You can change
4 [the password] back once I am done.” That limited request in 2012 has no bearing on
5 who owned or paid for the domain after 2014. Again, HEFG concedes it lost the
6 domain in 2014. In a December 10, 2014 e mail thread titled “HEFG Site,” Roxanne
7 wrote: “It expired and I didn’t know and someone else bought the domain.” The
8 embedded WHOIS lookup shows registrant “nicolas ortega.” (See R. Taylor Decl.,
9 Exh. 3.) I lawfully re-registered the domain in 2015, under my Namecheap account
10 “aoneent.” Namecheap Order # 17608799 dated October 13, 2015 lists User Name:
11 aoneent and “Registrant/Administrative Contact: AOne Entertainment, LLC” for
12 <hiddenempirefilmgroup.com>. Again, while HEFG reimbursed Aone for renewal
13 fees, there was never an agreement to transfer ownership. HEFG never submitted a
14 written ICANN “Change of Registrant” request, never designated its own Namecheap
15 account to receive the push, and never disputed the yearly renewal invoices bearing
16 the aoneent account. HEFG’s loss of the domain in 2014 required AOne to re-acquire
17 the asset in 2015 to keep the website live. From 2015 to October, 2022 I remained the
18 lawful registrant of record. HEFG’s present control exists only because I cooperated
19 with the Court ordered transfer; therefore Ms. Taylor’s assertions that I “took” their
20 domain and “refuse” to return credentials are factually incorrect.

21 11. Ms. Taylor further wrongfully asserts I used the GoDaddy credentials in
22 2012 to create the HEFG web site, that AOne has managed that site ever since, and
23 that HEFG’s ownership of both the domain and the web site “has never been
24 questioned.” (See R. Taylor Decl. ¶¶ 12–13.) The contemporaneous record shows that
25 after I delivered the finished site in 2013, HEFG—not AOne—controlled the
26 GoDaddy hosting, and HEFG itself lost both the domain and the site in 2014. On
27 October 22, 2013, Deon Taylor asked Roxanne to “confirm the final amounts needed
28 to close out the online work”. I then delivered the WordPress export and database

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1 files. From that point forward, HEFG was free to host the site wherever it wished.
2 Further, in a December 10, 2014 e-mail thread titled “HEFG Site” (R. Taylor Decl.,
3 Exh. 3) I told Roxanne: “The files should still be on your GoDaddy account, but
4 someone forwarded the DNS or domain from somewhere on your side.” I also pasted
5 a WHOIS lookup showing that the domain now belonged to a third-party registrant,
6 “nicolas ortega.” Roxanne replied: “It expired and I didn’t know and someone else
7 bought the domain.” These statements contradict her claim that AOne possessed the
8 credentials or controlled the web site at that time.

9 12. Further, because HEFG changed its GoDaddy password after my 2012
10 development work (as I instructed), I could not retrieve the site files in 2014. I instead
11 advised Roxanne to log into her GoDaddy dashboard to locate them. I re-registered
12 the domain only after HEFG’s 2014 lapse in ownership. To get the site back online,
13 in December 2014, at my own initiative I registered the domain
14 hiddenempirefilms.com so that HEFG could bring a website back online and have a
15 domain to use with email. I lawfully acquired <hiddenempirefilmgroup.com> on
16 October 13, 2015 through my Namecheap account “aoneent”, as set forth above. This
17 was a salvage operation, not a “secret registration.” Roxanne’s statements (¶¶ 12-13
18 of her declaration) conflate two different assets—the domain registry and the
19 HTML/Java site files—and ignore HEFG’s 2014 lapse. The undisputed record shows
20 I did not possess the GoDaddy credentials after 2013, and did not “secretly” take the
21 domain.

22 13. Plaintiff Roxanne Taylor additionally makes three incorrect claims: (i)
23 that AOne still controls the Hidden Empire Film Group (“HEFG”) Google Workspace;
24 (ii) that I “re-registered” the domain in AOne’s name; and (iii)
25 that I am withholding current log-in credentials. Google’s audit file—
26 EnterpriseAccountInformation.json (a system-generated report that records the exact
27 date a Workspace domain is created and identifies the first “super-administrator”)—
28 shows that the Workspace for hiddenempirefilmgroup.com was created on

1 18 October 2017 at 14:58 UTC, and that I, darrick@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com, was
2 the initial super-administrator. A true and correct copy of the abovementioned Google
3 audit file is attached hereto as **Exhibit “F”**. No account—and therefore no
4 credentials—existed before that time, so Roxanne could not have “provided” me any
5 credentials or log-ins to their Google account to set up Google’s Gsuite as it was then
6 known. Google Workspace is a permission-based system: every user has a unique
7 username and password; there is no single master password that controls all access.
8 Moreover, from November 2017 through August 2022, every Google invoice lists
9 “Darrick Angelone” as the contracting and billing party, and the monthly fees were
10 charged to AOne’s corporate credit card. HEFG never paid Google directly during
11 that period.

12 14. Moreover, On September 6, 2022, Google suspended my super-
13 administrator privileges while it investigated a “rogue administrator” report submitted
14 by Roxanne Taylor; this is reflected in Google’s support case notes. From that
15 moment, I had no ability to reset other users’ passwords or change registration data.
16 By October 5, 2022, pursuant to the Court’s preliminary injunction order, I delivered
17 the domain hiddenempirefilmgroup.com into Plaintiffs’ registrar account. After that
18 hand off, HEFG/FTI had complete DNS control and could either (a) restore the
19 existing Workspace account or (b) create a brand new one with no connection to me.

20 15. The documentary record shows I no longer held admin. authority after
21 September 6, 2022, and that Plaintiffs obtained full exclusive technical control of the
22 domain on October 5, 2022. Roxanne Taylor’s statements that I still “control the
23 credentials,” “changed the registration to AOne,” or “refused to supply log ins” are
24 therefore completely inaccurate.

25 16. Contrary to Ms. Taylor’s claims that I “locked out” HEFG and its staff
26 from their Google email server (R. Taylor Decl. ¶¶ 18-19), no permanent lock out
27 ever occurred. Rather, AOne suspended Plaintiffs’ services due to their nonpayment,
28 and restored it within seven days pending ongoing discussions with counsel. This was

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1 purely a business decision and common protocol when a client continually fails to pay
2 for services.

3 17. To elaborate, on August 2, 2022 (one week before any suspension), I e-
4 mailed Roxanne Avent-Taylor and Sean Miller notifying them that, because seven
5 invoices covering May 1 – July 31, 2022 remained unpaid, AOne would discontinue
6 web-hosting and Google Workspace services and that HEFG needed to (i) establish
7 its own replacement accounts and (ii) request a proper technical transfer protocol so
8 that domains, DNS settings, and Workspace data could migrate smoothly. A true and
9 correct copy of said August 2, 2022 email is attached hereto as **Exhibit “G”**. HEFG
10 never responded with a migration plan or requested the protocol. Consequently, when
11 payment was still outstanding on August 9, 2022, I paused the services tied to the
12 hiddenempirefilmgroup.com domain. The temporary loss of e-mail functionality that
13 Ms. Taylor labels a “lock-out” was the direct and foreseeable result of the suspension
14 for non-payment and lack of diligence, not any withholding of credentials.

15 18. Following counsel’s good-faith discussions, I fully restored the
16 Google Workspace on August 16, 2022—seven days after the temporary
17 pause. Google’s subpoenaed audit logs confirm that HEFG users (including
18 *roxanne@*, *quincy@*, and *sean@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com*) logged in successfully
19 that same day, using the exact credentials and permission levels they had always
20 possessed. The brief interruption was a pure billing matter that HEFG could have
21 avoided—or resolved immediately—by (a) paying the overdue \$35,818.41 balance,
22 and (b) implementing the step-by-step transfer protocol I requested on August 2 to
23 migrate the Workspace to accounts under its own control.

24 19. In ¶¶ 20-25 of her declaration, Ms. Taylor furthers inaccurate claims
25 regarding HEFG domain ownership. Again, on December 10, 2014 Ms. Taylor
26 informed me she had allowed hiddenempirefilmgroup.com to lapse (expire), and that
27 “someone else bought the domain.” (See R. Taylor Decl., Exh. 3.) To avoid another
28 such loss, I offered that AOne could manage future registrations on its

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1 infrastructure—a service I routinely provided to other clients. The very next day, I
2 secured hiddenempirefilms.com and, on October 13, 2015, AOne purchased
3 hiddenempirefilmgroup.com in its own Namecheap account using AOne funds; the
4 original receipt lists “AOne Entertainment” as purchaser. HEFG was never invoiced
5 for that acquisition, and no written assignment transferring ownership to HEFG exists.

6 20. HEFG did ask AOne to manage certain domains, but our relationship
7 remained that of an independent vendor until March 2018 when we formed the
8 partnership of Hyper Engine. All domains were registered through the long-standing
9 Namecheap user ID “aoneent,” which is permanently tied to AOne and cannot be re-
10 branded as an HEFG account.

11 21. Wherever HEFG requested new domains or renewals, AOne advanced
12 the registrar fees and then invoiced HEFG for reimbursement. HEFG frequently
13 declined or delayed payment, leaving AOne as the sole payor-of-record.

14 22. Moreover, many of the “HEFG name” domains listed by Ms. Taylor (see
15 Decl. at ¶22) were never owned or controlled by me; several expired years ago after
16 non-use, and others were simply never registered at all. For example,
17 hiddenempirereleasing.com, hiddenempireproductions.com,
18 hiddenempire productions, hiddenempire.media, and hiddenempiremedia.group all
19 lapsed on August 6, 2022 without ever being used by HEFG, and I currently hold no
20 interest in them. The following domains identified by Ms. Taylor were never owned
21 or controlled by AOne, and therefore could not be transferred: hefg.com, climb.org,
22 fearthemovie.com, factsnotpolitics.com, and 2getherwewillsavelives.com. Public
23 ICANN WHOIS records confirm that each of these names has, since at least 2019,
24 been held by third party registrants unrelated to AOne or HEFG.

25 23. I do not generally dispute that Ms. Taylor personally registered
26 meettheblacksthemovie.com in 2015, and provided credentials to me. I never changed
27 those credentials without authorization, and HEFG has retained uninterrupted access.
28 By contrast, AOne did purchase numerous film-related domains, including

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1 fatale.movie, traffik.movie, theintruder.movie, all at AOne’s expense, and all within
2 the same registrar account that documents AOne as registrant of record. Domain-level
3 passwords are not generated by registrars; access is controlled via the single AOne
4 account, so the allegation that I “subsequently changed” individual domain passwords
5 is factually impossible.

6 24. The July 6, 2018 e-mail transmitting a spreadsheet of social-media log-
7 ins, referenced in ¶24 of Ms. Taylor’s declaration, was part of ordinary client
8 reporting. Providing that list did not concede HEFG ownership of any underlying
9 domains; it merely summarized active credentials so the marketing team could
10 coordinate postings. My cautionary note about the risk of malicious password changes
11 reflects standard IT practice, not an admission of HEFG title.

12 25. Pursuant to the Court’s Preliminary Injunction issued September 30,
13 2022 (Dkt. 25), I worked with FTI Consulting to transfer all Project Domains under
14 AOne’s control to the new HEFG Namecheap account designated by FTI. The transfer
15 was completed and confirmed by FTI on October 4, 2022. Accordingly, since October
16 2022, neither I nor AOne has possessed administrative control over any Project
17 Domain referenced in Ms. Taylor’s June 2025 declaration (Dkt. 187-2).

18 26. To correct Ms. Taylors’s assertions in ¶¶ 26-27 of her declaration - AOne
19 utilized their company Namecheap account to register and renew the Hidden Empire–
20 related domains and advanced every registrar or server fee on its corporate card.
21 Invoices often remained outstanding for up to 18 months. Yet, apart from the May–
22 August 2022 invoices that are the subject of Counterclaimants’ unjust enrichment
23 claim, HEFG eventually reimbursed AOne at pure cost, with no markup whatsoever.
24 That no margin structure reflected the parties’ mutual intent that AOne’s technical
25 infrastructure and labor serve as an in-kind capital contribution to the Hyper Engine
26 partnership established under the 2018 Operating Agreement.

27 27. Exhibit 9 to Ms. Taylor’s declaration reflects a January 17, 2018 email
28 exchange concerning HEFG’s payment dispute with Codeblack/Lionsgate executive

1 Jeff Clanagan. Importantly, in an email chain dated January 16-17, 2018,
2 Mr. Clanagan expressly noted that AOne was not contracted by Lionsgate, and that
3 any outstanding balance was HEFG's responsibility. At Ms. Taylor's request, I had
4 merely forwarded an unpaid Traffik invoice to Mr. Clanagan. A true and correct copy
5 of the abovementioned January 2018 email chain is attached hereto as **Exhibit "H"**.

6 28. Additionally, subsequent July 19, 2018 email proposing a \$5,000
7 monthly maintenance retainer was a settlement offer conditioned on HEFG first
8 paying roughly \$59,000 in past-due AOne invoices tied to the Traffik and 2016 Meet
9 the Blacks campaigns. This runs contrary to Ms. Taylor's assertions (R. Taylor Decl.
10 at ¶27, Exh. 9.) The proposal was never accepted, and no retainer was ever paid.
11 Accordingly, Exhibit 9 cannot be interpreted as either (a) an admission that AOne was
12 only a vendor with no partnership interest, or (b) evidence that Lionsgate reimbursed
13 AOne.

14 29. The April 22, 2022 email chain Ms. Taylor attaches as Exhibit 10 to her
15 declaration is also stripped of context. It follows earlier discussions, both with HEFG
16 principals and with AOne's counsel Mr. Darrell Thompson, who had been engaged
17 to negotiate formal Hyper Engine partnership terms which arose out of HEFG's
18 persistent evasion of formalizing the 2019 Operating Agreement we had been
19 operating under since it superseded our 2018 Hyper Engine operating agreement. My
20 statement that "HEFG has almost always engaged AOne" and "we are only looking
21 for a commitment to be that vendor" was intended solely to facilitate marketing
22 operations for the Fear release under existing informal arrangements, not to concede
23 that AOne lacked any equity or partnership stake in Hyper Engine. That same email
24 confirms my readiness to finalize a comprehensive Master Services Agreement once
25 HEFG agreed to the renegotiated partnership terms in good faith.

26 30. Ms. Taylor's claim that HEFG has "paid in full all of the invoices it has
27 received from AOne" (R. Taylor Decl. ¶ 29) is demonstrably false. AOne issued seven
28 invoices between May and August 2022 for continued use of services including

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1 Google Workspace administration, DNS/domain registrations, and server hosting, all
2 of which remained active at HEFG’s request even after HEFG expressly asked AOne
3 to pause marketing work. As of the date of this declaration, those May–August 2022
4 invoices remain unpaid in full, with an outstanding balance of \$35,818.41. These
5 unpaid charges are the subject of AOne’s unjust enrichment claim, and no evidence
6 has been produced by HEFG showing reimbursement, partial payment, or formal
7 dispute.

8 31. To correct Ms. Taylor’s assertions regarding a “lock-out” from certain
9 domains (R. Taylor Decl. ¶¶ 30-31): On May 3, 2022, Plaintiffs formally requested
10 by email that AOne “pause all work” pending negotiation of a new Master Services
11 Agreement (“MSA”). At that time, all HEFG and Hyper Engine domains remained
12 hosted on AOne’s servers and registered under AOne’s Namecheap account, which
13 was funded solely by AOne’s corporate credit. Despite the pause, Plaintiffs continued
14 to rely on AOne’s infrastructure for active websites, domain routing, and Workspace
15 email. Yet, from May through August 2022, Plaintiffs made no attempt whatsoever
16 to establish their own domain registrar account, migrate to a new email server, or
17 request a technical transfer protocol—steps which are essential for any transition
18 under ICANN rules. AOne could not unilaterally assign control without a formal
19 registrar and admin destination from Plaintiffs, which was never provided despite
20 request for the same.

21 32. Furthermore, I did not “lock out” HEFG or any of its personnel from
22 accessing domain names. This claim reflects a fundamental misunderstanding of how
23 domain registration and access actually work. Domains do not have individualized
24 usernames or passwords. Rather, they are managed collectively through a registrar
25 account. In this case, AOne’s long-established Namecheap account, registered in
26 AOne’s name and funded by AOne’s credit card, was the registrar. Access to domain
27 settings (such as DNS, WHOIS, and MX records) is performed within the registrar
28 account, not through individual domain login credentials for each domain. Roxanne

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1 Taylor’s repeated reference to “locking out” HEFG from the domains conflates email
2 access (which occurs via Google Workspace) with domain registrar control, which is
3 a separate and centralized administrative function.

4 33. To transfer any domain to HEFG, Plaintiffs would have needed to set up
5 their own registrar account and request a formal ICANN transfer using the standard
6 EPP code and authorization process. At no time between May and August 2022 did
7 HEFG submit such a request, nor did they designate a registrar or technical contact to
8 receive transfers. Instead, they waited until early August, after three months of service
9 usage and non-payment, to raise access complaints. Had they followed standard
10 industry protocol and provided a destination registrar, I would have immediately
11 released control of any domains owned by Plaintiffs. The only access limitations that
12 existed were inherent in the registrar architecture: as long as domains were in AOne’s
13 Namecheap account, only AOne could modify them. That was never concealed, and
14 in fact, it was exactly why Plaintiffs were advised to initiate a proper transfer.

15 34. Roxanne Taylor’s reference to my December 2014 emails (R. Taylor
16 Decl., Exh. 11) misrepresents the context and nature of my communications. I never
17 claimed ownership over HEFG social media accounts in that exchange, nor did I
18 acknowledge any such issue. I was merely providing strategic marketing advice,
19 encouraging HEFG to proactively register social media handles tied to their films to
20 avoid exploitation by third parties. My suggestion that “you guys should definitely set
21 up Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts” was just that—a suggestion. The idea
22 of “own[ing] them before someone else does” was industry-standard brand protection
23 advice and not a statement of legal ownership or agency. My separate comment about
24 “Snapchat marketing” was part of that same creative exchange.

25 35. To the extent Ms. Taylor now tries to link these comments to the 2012
26 Website Development Agreement, such connection is baseless. The 2012 agreement
27 (R. Taylor Decl., Exh. 1) was strictly limited to the development of two websites—
28 LMAOcomedyseries.com and HiddenEmpirefilmgroup.com—and contains no

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1 reference to social media services, accounts, or digital brand strategy. Moreover, the
2 2012 agreement was fully performed and terminated long before 2014, it does not
3 govern any services rendered after 2013, as set forth above. (See Exhibit E.)

4 36. Ms. Taylor inaccurately claims that she "decided to have AOne create
5 and manage" social media accounts and that she sent me credentials as part of this
6 assignment. (R. Taylor Decl. at ¶33.) The October 22, 2015 email she references (Exh.
7 12) simply reflects the reverse of what she suggests: she sent me credentials for a few
8 film-related accounts she had personally created using her own Gmail address, such
9 as the Meet_the_Blacks handles. Those credentials were submitted to me after the
10 fact so I could secure, link, and professionalize those accounts under AOne's broader
11 platform strategy, including linking them to verified domains and adding analytics,
12 branding consistency, and advertising tools. That single list of shared credentials did
13 not reflect all HEFG-related accounts, most of which were independently created and
14 managed by AOne. Indeed, many film and initiative accounts (e.g., @Traffikmovie,
15 @theintrudermovie, @blackchairshow, @fatale.movie, and @bewoke.vote) were
16 created entirely by AOne, on AOne infrastructure, using AOne-managed logins.
17 Access to those accounts was shared as-needed with HEFG, often via administrator
18 privileges or direct session links, but ownership of those accounts was never
19 transferred and remains with AOne to this day absent any formal agreement or
20 compensation, which Plaintiffs have not produced.

21 37. The list of social media accounts provided in ¶ 34 of Ms. Taylor's
22 declaration appears to reflect the current or aspirational branding used by HEFG
23 across social media, but it omits the key facts of account origin, registration, and
24 administrative control. Many of the accounts listed, including @traffikmovie,
25 @theintrudermovie, @blackhistoryintwominutes, @bewoke.vote, and @fear.movie,
26 were created and originally registered by AOne, not HEFG. In these instances, the
27 platforms (e.g., Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube) were configured using
28 AOne-linked email addresses or phone numbers, which control primary

1 administrative access. AOne bore the cost of setup, integration, security, and third-
2 party tools used to manage these platforms. HEFG’s failure to reimburse or
3 contractually document these registrations further undermines any claim of
4 “ownership.” Plaintiffs have offered no chain-of-title, assignment, or
5 contemporaneous documentation to support the assertion that these accounts belong
6 to HEFG, and no platform transfer request was ever initiated.

7 38. To further clarify, social media platforms do not provide fixed,
8 transferable “credentials” in the way Ms. Taylor describes. Most operate through
9 tiered access roles (e.g., Meta Business Manager, YouTube Brand Accounts), where
10 the party who creates the account using a verified email or mobile number retains
11 permanent administrative control unless a transfer is executed through the platform.
12 While HEFG team members were occasionally granted user or moderator-level
13 access, AOne retained the master-level admin privileges on the vast majority of
14 accounts. Ms. Taylor’s Exhibits 7 and 12 depict shared credentials for a few “Meet
15 the Blacks” related accounts, but they do not demonstrate ownership over the full list
16 in ¶ 34 of her declaration. Notably, many of those credentials were either set up by
17 AOne, or restored after HEFG failed to manage passwords, lost recovery access, or
18 relied on personal Gmail accounts (e.g., roxanneavent@gmail.com) without business
19 continuity safeguards.

20 39. Another misrepresentation is that I “locked out” HEFG, Hyper Engine,
21 or any HEFG personnel from accessing social media accounts. To the contrary, access
22 to HEFG-related social media was always maintained through centralized platform
23 controls, such as Meta Business Manager, YouTube Brand Account roles, and
24 Twitter/X team access settings which use role-based permissions rather than static
25 “login credentials.” The notion that I “changed the credentials provided to me by
26 HEFG” is factually wrong and misleading. In nearly every instance, the social media
27 accounts in question were originally created by AOne (not by HEFG), and were linked
28 to AOne-controlled recovery emails, phone numbers, or third-party tools. HEFG did

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1 not “provide credentials” to me that I later altered; rather, I granted HEFG
2 collaborators access to accounts I had created or was administering as part of our
3 marketing responsibilities.

4 40. Furthermore, I made clear in multiple communications that AOne would
5 transfer control or admin rights upon payment of outstanding invoices and
6 confirmation of a designated business recipient for each platform. HEFG has never
7 submitted any such verified destination, nor have they followed standard procedures
8 for claiming ownership via platform-based requests (e.g., Business Manager admin
9 transfer request on Facebook or branded channel reassignment on YouTube).

10 41. In addition, any claimed refusal to provide credentials is contradicted by
11 the Court record: all credentials within AOne’s control were transferred through FTI
12 Consulting pursuant to the Preliminary Injunction Order dated September 30, 2022,
13 with confirmation that no access limitations remained after the FTI-facilitated
14 handoff. Any current lack of access by Plaintiffs is either (a) the result of account
15 creation tied to personal Gmail addresses they mismanaged internally, or (b) based on
16 accounts AOne never had control of in the first place.

17 42. Unlike what Ms. Taylor alleges (R. Taylor Decl. at ¶37), I did not use
18 any HEFG social media accounts to promote AOne or claim ownership of HEFG. The
19 Instagram and Twitter posts dated September 6, 2022 that Roxanne Taylor references
20 (Exh.13) were automated posts generated by pre-configured cross-platform tools.
21 These systems were long used in HEFG’s digital campaigns to schedule and auto-
22 publish content across Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook without requiring manual
23 logins. The specific image that says “brought to you by AOne” was not created to
24 suggest AOne owned HEFG, but to acknowledge that AOne continued to provide
25 hosting, marketing, and infrastructure for HEFG at that time. At the time of that post,
26 HEFG had not paid for over three months of services and had made no effort to
27 formally transition control of the accounts. HEFG also never submitted platform-
28 based requests to assume administrator access or replace AOne infrastructure. All

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1 content, including the posts cited, was managed or generated as part of the same
2 systems I used to support HEFG’s campaigns for years.

3 43. My actions were neither hidden nor malicious. I did not delete any posts.
4 I did not restrict access to these accounts. Plaintiffs’ own expert admitted the social
5 media behavior resembled automation, not manual interference. As confirmed by
6 Defendants’ independent expert Rick Watts, the accounts were still connected to bot
7 and automation services when the posts occurred.

8 44. As to Ms. Taylor’s allegations regarding the Fear game and movie (R.
9 Taylor Decl. ¶¶38-40) - beginning in November 2021 I developed a game and NFT
10 activation titled “Fear – The Game” as part of a joint theatrical marketing campaign
11 for HEFG’s Fear film. The concept decks and design documents were circulated to
12 Deon Taylor, Quincy Newell, Roxanne Taylor, and Omar Joseph, including the Fear
13 Game + NFT Roadmap, pixelated character previews, and gameplay mechanics. The
14 characters in the game were intentionally modeled as pixelated likenesses of the film’s
15 cast and named after the film’s characters including Rom, Meg, Serena, Michael, and
16 Bianca. This was specifically to create an immersive, fan-based promotional
17 experience tied to the theatrical release. At all times, the game was framed and pitched
18 as a co-branded digital activation, and no objections were raised by HEFG leadership
19 until May 2022.

20 45. In communications throughout December 2021 through May 2022, I
21 kept Plaintiffs fully informed of the Fear game’s development and marketing plan.
22 On May 6, 2022, I sent Deon Taylor a detailed business breakdown of the Fear game
23 and collectible NFT strategy. Deon responded by confirming receipt and asking for a
24 walk-through with Roxanne and Omar so their counsel could “dive into formalizing
25 a partnership. A true and correct copy of this May 6, 2022 email discussion is attached
26 hereto as **Exhibit “I”**. At no point prior to this did HEFG suggest the game was
27 unauthorized. In fact, Deon Taylor acknowledged in an audio message dated May 3,
28 2022 that “you’ve been trying to do diligence with me for eight months” and that you

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1 “spent [your] own money making it.” He also stated, “we all love the game, we want
2 you to put it out... [but] the issue is we need to do the other side of the business”.

3 46. I have never concealed the existence or development of the Fear game.
4 HEFG was looped into every stage, from naming and branding to gameplay footage
5 and monetization planning. The site “fear.game” was shared privately via Dropbox
6 for internal HEFG review. The game's press release was drafted and distributed only
7 after multiple draft versions were shared with Deon Taylor and Omar Joseph and no
8 objections to its release were made. Although I developed the Fear Game as a co-
9 branded marketing activation in good faith, and with direct input from HEFG
10 leadership, Plaintiffs have since alleged in this lawsuit that I infringed on copyrighted
11 expressions from the film, including character names and visual elements. I dispute
12 these allegations. At all times, I understood the development of the Fear Game to be
13 a joint campaign initiative based on repeated communications with Deon and
14 Roxanne Taylor, as well as direction from their film marketing team. My work was
15 conducted with HEFG’s full knowledge, circulated openly across internal channels,
16 and structured to benefit the film’s theatrical release.

17 47. The May 2, 2022 press release regarding the Fear game (see R. Taylor
18 Decl. ¶¶ 41-46) was issued after months of collaborative planning with HEFG, during
19 which I repeatedly shared concept decks, activation timelines, and site previews for
20 HEFG’s input and review. The headline used in the Longview News Journal (“On
21 Chain Innovations Partners with Hidden Empire Film Group...”) was based on
22 HEFG’s internal approvals and Deon Taylor’s own back and forth communications
23 at that time. Deon confirmed that Glen Mastroberte and Darrell Thompson were being
24 brought in “to get this done” and finalize deal points for the game. At no time prior to
25 the press release did HEFG object to the materials circulated, which included versions
26 of the character artwork, marketing roadmap, and NFT tier breakdown. The reference
27 to a partnership was made in anticipation of the formal agreement that Deon and
28 Quincy had already committed to working toward.

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1 48. While no written partnership agreement had yet been executed, the
2 parties were actively negotiating one, and the marketing deck, including the
3 partnership language, was drafted and reviewed in that context. As reflected in Deon
4 Taylor’s own audio message from May 3, 2022, he acknowledged the existence of
5 the game, my investment, and his role in working to resolve the paperwork. He stated,
6 “You’ve been on every call. You’ve shared this with everyone. The issue is we
7 haven’t done the paperwork”. The article’s reference to a “partnership” reflected these
8 ongoing efforts, not a unilateral fabrication.

9 49. I did not dispute being listed as CEO of On Chain Innovations LLC. That
10 company was formed by me in 2022 to separate blockchain-related work from AOne
11 Creative’s broader agency services. On Chain Innovations was disclosed to HEFG as
12 early as February 2022 in the campaign roadmap.

13 50. The quote attributed to Deon Taylor in the May 2022 Fear Game press
14 release was included in draft versions of the release that were circulated to Deon
15 Taylor and other HEFG representatives for review prior to publication. It is standard
16 industry practice for PR representatives and campaign teams to draft suggested quotes
17 on behalf of company executives during the press development process. The version
18 circulated to HEFG was clearly labeled as a draft, and no objection was raised to the
19 inclusion of the placeholder quote until after publication. As soon as I was informed
20 by HEFG’s counsel that Deon had not personally approved that statement, I worked
21 with my publicist to remove it from subsequent use and update any forward-facing
22 materials. At all times, I acted in good faith based on our active and ongoing
23 collaboration regarding the Fear game campaign.

24 51. The statement that the Fear game was On Chain Innovations’ “first
25 product” was accurate. I disclosed this positioning in investor pitch decks, marketing
26 strategy documents, and in my communications with HEFG as early as Q1 2022. No
27 confidential information from HEFG was used, and all creative assets were either
28 generated by AOne or already circulated to HEFG for approval.

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1 52. My Instagram post referencing the Fear Game (see R. Taylor Decl. at
2 ¶46) was published as part of the broader promotional rollout, after more than seven
3 months of collaborative development with HEFG’s leadership and marketing
4 personnel. The same content had already been shared with Deon, Quincy, and
5 Roxanne multiple times. Deon Taylor himself confirmed in a May 3, 2022 audio
6 message that I had been on “every call” related to the project and that the objection
7 was not about the game’s substance, but rather timing and documentation. That post
8 was made in good faith, consistent with our then-active business relationship, and
9 never intended to suggest exclusivity or final authorization in the absence of a signed
10 deal.

11 53. Contradictory to assertions in ¶¶47-48 of Ms. Taylor’s declaration, I did
12 not withhold intellectual property assets from HEFG as a form of leverage to gain
13 equity in Hyper Engine, as Ms. Taylor suggests. That accusation mischaracterizes the
14 situation. By May 2022, HEFG had failed to pay over \$125,000 in past-due invoices
15 going back as far as 18 months prior. Come August 2022, when the past due amounts
16 were finally paid, more than \$35,800 for services rendered between May and August
17 2022 had not been paid, after HEFG themselves had requested a pause in services
18 without terminating use of the infrastructure AOne continued to host and maintain.
19 Despite this ongoing non-payment, I repeatedly offered to coordinate the orderly
20 transfer of digital assets, domains, and accounts, emphasizing that such transfers
21 require formal protocols, including account destination, registrar access, or business
22 manager assignment as set forth above.

23 54. Instead of providing that technical protocol, HEFG repeatedly demanded
24 only “credentials,” which is insufficient for the secure and proper transfer of most
25 digital assets, including social media, domain registration, and cloud-based servers.
26 HEFG never followed ICANN domain transfer processes or initiated Meta Business
27 Manager reassignment protocols. Their failure to cooperate in a standard transition
28 process, combined with months of unpaid invoices, necessitated my temporary

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1 retention of access pending resolution of outstanding obligations. Any suggestion that
2 I demanded equity in Hyper Engine as a condition for returning assets is contradicted
3 by the record and was never communicated. As outlined in Defendants' Fourth
4 Amended Counterclaims and my past declarations, I already had a 33.33% ownership
5 interest in Hyper Engine, which Plaintiffs themselves acknowledged through multiple
6 iterations of executed written agreements and years of performance. (See Exhibits A-
7 C).

8 55. I categorically deny that I "read through" HEFG's confidential emails or
9 improperly accessed attorney-client communications. The September 20, 2019 Bank
10 of the West email, which Ms. Taylor attaches as Exhibit 18, was forwarded to me
11 directly at info@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com on November, 27, 2019, as part of the
12 business onboarding process for the Hyper Engine LLC bank account. This was not a
13 hack or unauthorized access. It was a routine internal communication, and I was listed
14 on the account and corresponding banking documents.

15 56. Similarly, the November 25, 2019 email from Velma Sykes to Stephanie
16 Pottier regarding edits to the Hyper Engine LLC operating agreement (R. Taylor Decl.
17 at ¶48) was also forwarded to me as a cc-recipient, which is evident on the face of the
18 email. The communication pertained to the proposed governance structure, revenue
19 splits, and ownership terms of Hyper Engine, including a provision that "12% of all
20 accounts/project will be split with AOne and HEFG" and proposed language stating
21 HEFG would act as managing member. This was part of my ongoing participation in
22 Hyper Engine, which was founded jointly by HEFG and me. At no time was I a
23 stranger to these communications, nor was I accessing anything to which I was not
24 already a party.

25 57. Any assertion that I viewed privileged or confidential materials without
26 authorization is false, contradicted by the email headers, and unsupported by any
27 expert findings. As Rick Watts stated in his expert rebuttal, Plaintiffs failed to produce
28 any forensic evidence that I accessed, altered, or used confidential materials in an

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1 improper way. I was copied on the communications in question, and I had
2 administrative access to HEFG’s systems pursuant to my role managing their domain
3 and email infrastructure from 2014 through mid-2022.

4 58. Based on my information and belief, the “damages” Plaintiffs claim in
5 ¶¶49-50 of Ms. Taylor’s declaration are entirely self-inflicted and not supported by
6 any credible forensic findings. Defendants’ court-appointed forensic expert, Rick
7 Watts, conducted a full review and concluded that there was no evidence of malicious
8 activity, “unauthorized access,” or deletion of Plaintiffs’ emails, domains, or social
9 media accounts. His report specifically found that the accusations raised by Plaintiffs’
10 consultant lacked factual basis, and that the so-called “unauthorized access” was more
11 likely the result of routine administrative access tied to the infrastructure AOne built
12 and maintained. I was the administrator of the Google Workspace and domain
13 accounts at all times until September 6, 2022, something Plaintiffs openly relied upon
14 until they sought to retroactively reframe that relationship as unauthorized.

15 59. Additionally, HEFG never retained their own registrar, never created a
16 secure IT infrastructure, and never followed the industry-standard protocols for
17 account transfer that I repeatedly requested. Plaintiffs’ failure to transition properly,
18 coupled with their refusal to pay over \$125,000 in past-due services, plus the three
19 months of unpaid services through August 2022, is the true source of delay and
20 disruption.

21 60. I categorically deny that I ever misrepresented ownership of HEFG or
22 accessed Plaintiffs’ emails in violation of the law. As confirmed by the Rick Watts
23 expert report, I was never shown to have deleted, exploited, or wrongfully
24 disseminated any data. Rather, all account access was consistent with my role as
25 administrator of AOne-managed systems—including email, cloud storage, and web
26 services—until September 6, 2022 at which point my administrator privileges were
27 suspended by Google due to a complaint filed by Roxanne Taylor. The claim that I
28 “read through HEFG personnel emails” to extract financial leverage is false and

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1 unsupported by any evidence in this action or otherwise.

2 61. Furthermore, the September 6, 2022 Instagram post cited by Ms. Taylor
3 (Decl. at ¶50), which shows an image reading “brought to you by AOne”, was part of
4 a campaign we had developed together over months and was not an assertion of
5 ownership, but rather a fair acknowledgment of AOne’s role in hosting and supporting
6 HEFG’s digital infrastructure at its own expense. As Rick Watts explained, this
7 content was likely automated based on pre-scheduled activity from third-party tools
8 already linked to HEFG’s Instagram and Twitter accounts. The claim that this harmed
9 investor confidence is speculative and unsupported by a single investor
10 communication or declaration.

11 **The Declaration of Deon Taylor is Likewise Factually Inaccurate and**
12 **Misleading**

13 62. Deon Taylor’s assertion that I refused to provide HEFG with
14 “credentials” in July 2022 is materially misleading (See Declaration of Deon Taylor,
15 ¶7, Dkt. 193; hereinafter, “D. Taylor Decl.”). Between May and August 2022, I
16 repeatedly informed HEFG leadership, including Deon, Quincy Newell, and Roxanne
17 Taylor, that access to digital assets could only be transitioned securely through
18 standard administrative transfer protocols, not informal demands for credentials. This
19 includes platform-initiated administrator transfers for Google Workspace, domain
20 registrar release codes, and Meta Business Manager delegation, all of which require
21 cooperation by the receiving party.

22 63. Unsurprisingly, HEFG never initiated or proposed these proper
23 protocols, and instead, repeatedly insisted that I simply hand over logins and
24 passwords—requests that are insecure, incomplete, and often technically impossible.
25 Furthermore, HEFG had failed to pay for services rendered from May through August
26 2022 totaling \$35,818.41, following a prior unpaid balance exceeding \$125,000. Until
27 these issues were resolved, and without a formal plan for infrastructure separation, I
28 remained administrator as a matter of necessity and business protection.

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64. I further did not "lock out" HEFG or any of its personnel from their emails on August 7, 2022. In fact, the record shows that email access and social media services continued through August 9, at which point services were disabled only after months of nonpayment, and after I notified HEFG on August 2, 2022, that service would be discontinued. Contrary to Mr. Taylor's claim, HEFG had repeatedly acknowledged receiving notice that services would be discontinued due to outstanding invoices. Deon Taylor's own August 11, 2022 email (D. Taylor Decl., Exh. 19) further undercuts his own claim, as it confirms (1) he was aware emails were turned off due to a business dispute, not a malicious lockout, and (2) he admits AOne had been paid only *after* emails were disabled, which is consistent with my timeline. He also admits the company "has no access to business accounts/logins to banking info, contracts, agreements" because those systems had never been transferred out of AOne's infrastructure, despite multiple invitations to do so.

65. Moreover, Deon Taylor's August 11, 2022 email (Exhibit 19) must be understood in context: the breakdown in communication and narrative shift from HEFG began only after AOne retained attorney Darrell Thompson in February 2022, to formalize the longstanding Hyper Engine partnership between AOne and HEFG. Prior to that point, there were no disputes raised by HEFG regarding ownership, control, or administrative access to any shared infrastructure, including emails, domains, websites, or social media accounts. HEFG relied on AOne's infrastructure and administration continuously, acknowledged my contributions to Hyper Engine, and never questioned my role or authority.

66. Once counsel was introduced, and a formal operating structure was proposed (consistent with the terms HEFG had previously approved), the tone changed abruptly. HEFG refused to sign, began withholding payment for ongoing services, and initiated a campaign to recast the narrative by shifting from a working business relationship to baseless claims of "lockouts" and unauthorized access. This strategy appears designed not to resolve technical issues, but to evade their obligations

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1 to formalize the Hyper Engine partnership and to eliminate me from the record despite
2 years of documented co-management. Further, Deon Taylor’s aforementioned August
3 11 email includes language that I and my attorneys found to be intimidating and
4 inappropriate. He wrote, “there is a extremely large issue looming and A major
5 presence that is aware of these actions taken by you all, And this presence, Has its
6 own methods to resolving this matter.” He then warned of consequences that could
7 be “catastrophic” unless I complied. This ominous language came after I had
8 repeatedly offered to coordinate transfers and resolve all matters professionally.
9 Again, HEFG had not followed any proper digital transfer protocol, had not paid for
10 services provided between May and August 2022, and had never opened a registrar,
11 email, or server account to receive control. Their claim that “all invoices were paid”
12 is also misleading. HEFG had only paid for balances due pre-April 2022.

13 67. Deon’s message reveals not only the truth (i.e., that Plaintiffs had failed
14 to prepare for the transition), but also HEFG’s modus operandi: escalate, fabricate a
15 coercion narrative, and avoid the legal implications of a written Hyper Engine
16 partnership they no longer wanted to honor.

17 68. Deon Taylor’s assertions that I accessed HEFG emails “without
18 authorization” (D. Taylor Decl. ¶¶10, 12) is false and contradicted by the
19 documentary record. The Bank of the West debit card enrollment form which Mr.
20 Taylor references was not obtained through any improper access to HEFG email. That
21 document, dated September 20, 2019, was part of the formal business onboarding
22 process for Hyper Engine LLC, a company jointly formed and operated by HEFG and
23 myself. I was listed as an authorized cardholder, and my name appears clearly on the
24 face of the form as such. These documents were openly circulated to me by HEFG
25 personnel, as part of my role in co-managing Hyper Engine's finances and operations.

26 69. Indeed, Plaintiffs’ own exhibits show that Roxanne Taylor herself was
27 the signatory on the Bank of the West enrollment form, and the associated bank
28 account was linked to an operating agreement that listed me as a named partner.

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1 Deon’s claim that I accessed these materials without permission is directly
2 contradicted by the fact that I was included on communications regarding the Hyper
3 Engine bank account setup in 2019, as documented in multiple forwarded messages
4 and shared files. I never breached any email account or obtained private information
5 beyond what was administratively accessible in the systems I was asked to build and
6 manage. Ironically, Mr. Taylor’s position implies that, despite being a named member
7 of Hyper Engine LLC, I should not have access to company bank records and
8 formation documents.

9 70. Moreover, no forensic expert or discovery record has shown that I
10 accessed any privileged materials, and Plaintiffs have failed to produce the full native
11 email logs or Dropbox metadata to support the claims they now assert. The limited
12 screenshots attached to Deon’s declaration are partial, selectively cropped, and lack
13 headers or source authentication. (See D. Taylor Decl., Exhs. 20, 21.) I maintain that
14 my access to administrative materials in 2019–2022 was lawful, within the scope of
15 my role as co-manager of digital infrastructure, and part of a longstanding partnership
16 that HEFG later attempted to deny after engaging legal counsel to unwind our
17 relationship.

18 71. Similarly, Deon Taylor’s claim that I improperly disclosed or accessed
19 “private emails between Roxanne and HEFG’s accountants” (D. Taylor Decl., ¶11) is
20 false and misleading. The emails in question (D. Taylor Decl., Exh. 21) are from
21 September 11, 2019, and pertain directly to the formation, compliance status, and
22 accounting obligations of Hyper Engine LLC, a business I co-founded and for which
23 I am named in the operating agreement as a 33.33% partner. The referenced email
24 thread, initiated by Roxanne Taylor and forwarded among her and her accountants,
25 concerned the EIN, tax status, and financial onboarding of Hyper Engine LLC. As a
26 founding member and co-manager, I was entitled to receive these materials and was
27 included on earlier communications regarding the entity’s formation, banking, and
28 governance, none of which were confidential or privileged as to me. These messages

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1 were either forwarded directly to me at the time, shared through the central HEFG
2 Gmail accounts I helped administer, or provided in connection with my ongoing
3 business responsibilities.

4 72. Moreover, Deon Taylor’s own message dated August 11, 2022,
5 referenced above and attached as Exhibit 19 to his declaration, illustrates that I was
6 openly managing systems containing “contracts, agreements, and employee emails”
7 that HEFG had never transitioned to independent infrastructure. Plaintiffs’ sudden
8 pivot to framing such messages as “unauthorized” is a litigation strategy, and not a
9 reflection of reality. They were fully aware of my administrative access, and at no
10 point in 2019, 2020, 2021, or the first half of 2022 did they request a firewall,
11 independent IT audit, or data separation. I was fulfilling routine account maintenance
12 duties when I received or accessed those materials, which were never marked
13 confidential or privileged as to me.

14 73. Deon Taylor’s claim that I “looked through years’ worth of [his and
15 Roxanne’s] private emails” (D. Taylor Decl. ¶ 12) is equally false and unsupported
16 by any forensic evidence. The materials I referred to in the August 22, 2022 text
17 messages, including the Bank of the West form and the Hyper Engine operating
18 agreements, were not obtained by searching through anyone’s personal email. These
19 materials were sent to me either contemporaneously (in 2019), or maintained in shared
20 folders and accounts that I had administrative access to as the longtime IT
21 administrator for HEFG’s digital systems. I was included on relevant correspondence
22 regarding Hyper Engine’s banking, tax, and formation processes. For example, the
23 Bank of the West enrollment form lists me by name as an authorized cardholder. I
24 was never removed from system administrator roles nor ever instructed to segregate
25 archived communications until long after the parties’ business relationship
26 deteriorated.

27 74. The phrase “Until this deep dive I had not noticed how badly I was being
28 gaslighted,” referenced in Exhibit 22 to the D. Taylor Decl., does not admit or

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1 otherwise evidence unauthorized access. Much like a lawyer would take a “deep dive”
2 into their own case files, this statement reflects my internal review of documents that
3 I had lawfully obtained or had access to during approximately eight years of
4 operational oversight of HEFG’s digital infrastructure, including domains, cloud-
5 based file systems, and shared workspaces. Plaintiffs’ deliberate and continued failure
6 to produce the native Dropbox metadata, email headers, or administrative logs they
7 now rely on prevents this Court from seeing the actual scope of access and timeline
8 of possession. No discovery to date establishes I engaged in improper access of
9 personal or privileged communication. This is simply another attempt by Plaintiffs to
10 take matters completely out of context and make it align with their false narrative.

11 75. The draft operating agreement Deon Taylor references in ¶13 of his
12 declaration was circulated by HEFG’s own personnel, including Velma Sykes and
13 other business affairs contacts, during the early formation of Hyper Engine in 2019.
14 The document, titled “Hyper Engine Operating Agreement,” lists me by name and
15 reflects my status as a founding partner. It is not a privileged legal memo, nor was it
16 ever marked “confidential” or withheld from me. The document was shared internally
17 among stakeholders and, in some versions, posted to a shared Dropbox folder that I
18 was invited to access. At no time during the partnership formation period was I
19 excluded from communications regarding entity governance.

20 76. The suggestion that my access to or possession of this document
21 constitutes a violation of privilege is unsupported and illogical, given my role in the
22 partnership and the fact that I had been engaging in active discussions with HEFG
23 leadership and their legal counsel regarding formalizing the partnership in early 2022.
24 It is in fact strange how Plaintiffs are so intent on proving that I should not have had
25 access to Hyper Engine LLC banking information and governance documents, all
26 while both the Taylors’ signatures appear on signed operating agreements for Hyper
27 Engine. My August 22, 2022 communications do not reflect any misuse of
28 confidential materials. Rather, they memorialize my frustration at being stonewalled

1 while the documents Plaintiffs relied on to form and fund Hyper Engine continued to
2 show my partnership interest, which they later tried to repudiate, and continue to do
3 so in this action.

4 I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.
5 Executed this 4th day of August, 2025, at Los Angeles, California.

6
7 /s/ Darrick Angelone
8 DARRICK ANGELONE, Declarant
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Exhibit A

OPERATING AGREEMENT

OF

Hyper Engine, LLC

Federal Tax Identification: 82-5286902

California Secretary of State Number 201807410500

THE SECURITIES REPRESENTED BY THIS AGREEMENT HAVE NOT BEEN REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 NOR REGISTERED NOR QUALIFIED UNDER ANY STATE SECURITIES LAWS. SUCH SECURITIES MAY NOT BE OFFERED FOR SALE, SOLD, DELIVERED AFTER SALE, TRANSFERRED, PLEDGED, OR HYPOTHECATED UNLESS QUALIFIED AND REGISTERED UNDER APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL SECURITIES LAWS OR UNLESS, IN THE OPINION OF COUNSEL SATISFACTORY TO THE COMPANY, SUCH QUALIFICATION AND REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED. ANY TRANSFER OF THE SECURITIES REPRESENTED BY THIS AGREEMENT IS FURTHER SUBJECT TO OTHER RESTRICTIONS, TERMS AND CONDITIONS WHICH ARE SET FORTH HEREIN.

OPERATING AGREEMENT FOR HYPER ENGINE, LLC

This Operating Agreement (“**Agreement**”) is made as of March 1, 2018 (“Effective Date”), by and among Robert F. Smith, Deon Taylor, Roxanne Taylor, and Darrick Angelone, dba Hyper Engine, LLC (Company) a California limited liability company, and each of those who become a Company Member in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Members desire to form a limited liability company under the Beverly–Killea Limited Liability Company Act (“**Act**”); and

WHEREAS, the Members desire to enter into this Agreement for the Company to delineate their rights and liabilities as Members, to provide for the Company’s management and to provide for certain other matters, all as permitted under the Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants and undertakings herein specified and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, with the intent to be obligated legally and equitably, the Members hereto agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 The following terms used in this Operating Agreement shall have the following meanings (unless otherwise expressly provided herein), and other terms are defined in other sections of this Operating Agreement:
 - (a) “Articles of Organization” shall mean the Articles of Organization filed with the California Secretary of State on March 1, 2018 __, as evidenced by the Articles of Organization of Company.

- (b) “Budget” shall mean U.S. Dollars (USD \$ _____).00).
- (c) “California Act” shall mean the California Revised Uniform Limited Liability Company Act, codified in the California Corporations Code, § 17701 *et seq.*, as the same may be amended from time to time.
- (d) “Capital Account” as of any given date shall mean the capital account established and maintained for each Member in accordance with Section 4.4.
- (e) “Capital Contribution” shall mean any contribution to the capital of the Company in cash or property by a Member whenever made as set forth in Schedule “B” hereof, and as such Schedule may be later amended from time to time.
- (f) “Class A Managing Member(s)” shall mean any Persons who becomes successor Class A Managing Member(s) solely in accordance with the terms hereof.
- (g) “Class A Unit(s)” shall mean units of interest in the Company acquired by the Class A Managing Member(s) as contemplated herein and allocated among the Class A Managing Member(s) as set forth in Schedule “A” hereof, and as such Schedule may be later amended from time to time.
- (h) “Class B Non-Managing Member” shall mean any subscriber to Class B Unit(s) pursuant to Section 4.01 as stated on Schedule “B” hereof and, to the extent Class B Unit(s) have been transferred in accordance with Article IX, their successors and assigns.
- (i) “Class B Unit(s)” shall mean the interest in the Company acquired by the Class B Non- Managing Members.
- (j) “Code” shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding provisions of superseding federal revenue laws.
- (k) “Company” shall refer to Hyper Engine, LLC.
- (l) “Deficit Capital Account” shall mean with respect to any Member, the deficit balance, if any, in such Member’s Capital Account as of the end of the taxable year.
- (m) “Gross Receipts” means all non-returnable monies or other sums actually received by or credited to the Company from any sources worldwide, including without limitation, amounts derived from the exercise by the Company the underlying rights (if any) or any ancillary, allied, subsidiary and derivative rights related thereto, including without limitation; any and all tax credits, rebates or other governmental incentives generated by the Company, and any unspent contingency or other amounts included in the Budget.
- (n) “Interests” or “Membership Interests” shall mean the Class A Interests, and/or Class B Interests, as applicable.
- (o) “Majority-in-Interest”, when used with respect to Percentage Interests, shall mean interests in the Company representing in excess of fifty percent (50%) of the Percentage Interests of all Units, Class A, and Class B.
- (p) “Member(s)” shall mean the Class A Managing Member(s), and Class B Non-

Managing Member(s), and such other Members admitted to the Company as provided herein.

- (q) “Net Profits” and “Net Losses” shall mean the income, gain, loss, deductions and credits of the Company in the aggregate or separately stated, as appropriate, determined in accordance with the accounting methods followed by the Accountants of the Company for income tax purposes.
- (r) “Percentage Interest” as shall mean:
 - (i) as applied to the Class A Managing Member(s) fifty percent (50%) as set forth in Schedule “A” hereof; and
 - (ii) as applied to each Class B Member as set forth in Schedule “B” hereof and their respective subscription agreement, with all such interests to a total of fifty percent (50%) in the aggregate.
- (s) “Persons” shall mean any individual or entity, and the heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, and assigns of such “Person” where the context permits.

- (t) “Units” shall mean the Class A Units, and the Class B Units issued pursuant to this Operating Agreement.
- (u) “Unit Subscription Agreements” shall mean the agreements between the Company and the Class B Non-Managing Members, by which each such Class B Non-Managing Member subscribes for Units.
- (v) “U.S. Treasury Regulations” shall include temporary and final regulations promulgated under the Code in effect as of the date of filing the Certificate of Formation and the corresponding sections of any regulations subsequently issued that amend or supersede such regulations.

ARTICLE II

FORMATION OF COMPANY

- 2.1 Name. The name of the Company is Hyper Engine, LLC, or such other lawful name as hereafter may be designated in writing by the Class A Managing Member(s), in Class A Managing Members’ reasonable discretion, to the other Members.
- 2.2 Formation. On March 1, 2018, Company was organized by executing and delivering Articles of Organization to the Secretary of State of California in accordance with and pursuant to the California Act.
- 2.3 Principal Place of Business. The Company may locate its places of business and registered office at lawful place(s) as the Class A Managing Member(s) may from time to time deem advisable upon notice to the Class B Non-Managing Members.
- 2.4 Registered Office and Registered Agent. The Company’s initial registered office shall be 10250 Constellation Blvd., #1100, Los Angeles, CA 90067. The registered office may be changed from time to time by filing the address of the new registered office and/or the name of the new registered agent with the Secretary of State pursuant to the California Act.
- 2.5 Term. The term of the Company shall be from the date the Company was formed until dissolved in accordance with either the provisions of this Operating Agreement or the California Act.
- 2.6 Qualification in Other Jurisdictions. The Class A Managing Member(s) shall cause the Company to be qualified in any jurisdiction in which the Company owns property or transacts business if such qualification is necessary in order to protect the limited liability of the Members or to permit the Company lawfully to own property or transact business. The Class A Managing Member(s) shall execute, file and publish all such certificates, notices, statements or other instruments necessary to permit the Company to conduct business as a limited liability company in all jurisdictions where the Company elects to do business and to maintain the limited liability of the Members.

ARTICLE III

BUSINESS OF COMPANY

- 3.1 The objects and purposes of the Company are solely:
- (a) to engage in the development, financing, and other exploitation of the services, now known or hereafter devised;
 - (b) to enter into, make and perform all such contracts and other undertakings, and engage in all such activities and transactions, as are reasonably necessary or appropriate to carry out the objectives and purposes stated in (a).
- 3.2 The Company may apply for and pursue any and all federal, state, local, and/or foreign tax credits it is entitled to receive and are available to the Company. The Class A Managing Member(s) shall cause the accountant for the Company annually to prepare a statement of the Tax Credits, if any, received for the calendar year utilized by the Company as a credit against taxes due or as a refund of taxes paid or payment to the Company. The Class A Managing Member(s) shall be permitted, in their sole discretion, to have the Company make any and all corporate or tax elections or other business decisions required to capture and/or monetize such Tax Credits. In connection with any such Tax Credit monetization, the Class A Managing Member(s) shall be permitted to provide a first position security interest to third party lender(s) in and to the Tax Credits. For the avoidance of doubt, all Tax Credits banked or monetized (i.e. used as collateral for a loan or loans that partially finance a project) shall not be considered part of the Gross Receipts or any computation or distribution thereof, but shall rather be paid directly to such lender(s) in satisfaction of such loan(s).

ARTICLE IV

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMPANY AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

- 4.1 Capital Contributions. From and after the date hereof, the Class A Managing Member(s), on behalf of Company, may in Class A Managing Members' sole discretion, from time to time, accept subscriptions for Class B Units, for a total aggregate consideration, not to exceed U.S. _____ Dollars (USD \$_____.00), in each case by execution and delivery of a Unit Subscription Agreement and such other agreements and documents as the Class A Managing Member(s) may deem necessary or appropriate. Each subscriber to Class B Units under this Section 4.01 shall be admitted by the Class A Managing Member(s) as a Class B Non-Managing Member, provided such subscriber or assignee, as applicable, shall in writing have accepted and adopted all the terms and provisions of this Operating Agreement. Each Class B Unit will be offered at a price of U.S. _____ Dollars (USD \$_____.00). The Class A Managing Member(s) may elect to admit Member(s) upon receipt of acceptable subscriptions for less than one (1) Class B Unit, or fractions thereof. The Class A Managing Member(s) shall be permitted to expend Capital Contributions in furtherance of the objects and purposes of the Company (as set forth in paragraph 3.1 and its subsections) upon receipt of such amounts from the Class B Non- Managing Member(s).

- 4.2 In-Kind Contributions. From and after the date hereof, the Class A Managing Member(s), on behalf of Company, may in Class A Managing Members' sole discretion, from time to time, accept subscriptions for Class B Units in exchange for in-kind contributions ("In-Kind Contributions"), in each case by execution and delivery a Unit Subscription Agreement and such other agreements and documents as the Class A Managing Member(s) may deem necessary or appropriate. Each subscriber to Class B Units under this Section 4.02 shall be admitted by the Class A Managing Member(s) as a Class B Non-Managing Member, provided such subscriber or assignee, as applicable, shall in writing have accepted and adopted all the terms and provisions of this Operating Agreement. The value of the In-Kind Contributions and the corresponding amount of Class B Units(s) (or fractions thereof) provided to such parties providing In-Kind Contributions shall be determined by the Class A Managing Member(s) in their sole discretion, with such determination to be based upon the Class A Managing Member(s) reasonable business judgment.
- 4.3 Nature of Contributions: No Member shall be required or obligated (a) to contribute any capital to the Company other than as provided in the Unit Subscription Agreement executed by such Member, or (b) to lend any funds to the Company. No interest shall be paid on any capital contributed to the Company and, except as otherwise provided herein, no Member may withdraw such Member's Capital Contribution. None of the terms, covenants, obligations or rights contained in this Section is or shall be deemed to be for the benefit of any Person or entity other than the Members and the Company, and no Person that is not a Member shall under any circumstances have any right to compel any actions or payments by any of the Members.
- 4.4 Capital Accounts.
- (a) Cash Distributions. All cash resulting from the normal business operations of the Company and from a Capital Event shall be distributed between the Members in proportion to their Percentage Interests. Member's Capital Account will be decreased by (1) the amount of all Adjusted Gross Receipts distributed to that Member by the Company; (2) the fair market value of property distributed to that Member by the Company (net of liabilities secured by such distributed property that such Member is considered to assume or take subject to under Section 752 of the Code); and (3) allocations to the account of such Member of Company net losses and deductions, in conformity with the Treasury Regulations, taking into account adjustments to reflect book value.
 - (b) The manner in which Capital Accounts are to be maintained pursuant to this Section 4.04 is intended to comply with the requirements of Section 704(b) of the Code and the Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder.
 - (c) Upon liquidation of the Company (or any Member's Membership Interest), liquidating distributions will be made in accordance with the positive Capital Account balances of the respective Members, as determined after taking into account all Capital Account adjustments for the Company's taxable year during which the liquidation occurs. Liquidating distributions may be made in cash or property.

- (d) Except as otherwise required in the California Act, no Member shall have any liability to restore all or any portion of a deficit balance in such Member's Capital Account.

ARTICLE V

ALLOCATIONS OF INCOME, TAXES, AND DISTRIBUTIONS; BOOKS OF ACCOUNT AND COMPANY RECORDS

5.1. Definition of Net Income and Net Losses.

- (a) "Net income" and "net losses" shall mean the income or losses of the Company as determined in accordance with the accounting methods followed by the Company for federal income tax purposes, in addition to accounting for: net income exempt from tax as described in Section 705(a)(1)(B) of the Code; expenditures not deductible in computing taxable income as described in Section 705(a)(2)(B) of the Code; adjustments as required by U.S. Treasury Regulation 1.704-1(b)(2)(iv)(g) with respect to property contributed to the Company capital; and adjustments based upon the fair market value of the Company property revalued under Section 704(b) of the Code; and otherwise in accordance with accounting principles set forth herein this Operating Agreement. The Class A Managing Member(s), in consultation with the accountants of the Company, shall determine the accounting methods to be followed by the Company for federal income tax purposes and on all accounting decisions and elections permitted to be made by the Company for federal income tax purposes in such manner as will be most advantageous to those Members holding a Majority-in-Interest of the Percentage Interests.
- (b) Any allocation to a Member of the net income earned or net losses incurred by the Company under this Article V shall be deemed to be an allocation to such Member of the same pro rata share of each item of income, gain, loss expense, deduction, credit or tax preference applicable to the period during which such net income or net losses was realized.

5.2 Annual Accounting Period. All books and records of the Company shall be kept on the basis of an annual accounting period ending December 31 of each year, or other date as determined by the Class A Managing Member(s), except for the final accounting period, which shall end on the termination of the Company. All references herein to "fiscal year of the Company" or to "fiscal year" or to "taxable year" are to the annual accounting period described in the preceding sentence, whether the same shall consist of twelve (12) months or less.

5.3 Distributions. To the extent that Gross Receipts exists that is not reasonably required in the continuing operations of the Company or for the payment of expenses due or for the creation of reserves for expenses, all as contemplated by Section 1.01(a), distributions thereof shall be made by the Company to the Members subject to Section 5.09 below and the California Act, subject to the following priorities and from the following sources:

- (a) From Gross Receipts attributable to the worldwide revenues:
- i. First, the following customary "off-the-top" payments (which, for clarification, are not necessarily payable in the order of 5.03(a)(i)(1), 5.03(a)(i)(2) and 5.03(a)(i)(3) below):

1. payments actually made by Company, or a reserve for sums reasonably anticipated to be due by Company;
 2. payments actually made by Company, or a reserve for sums reasonably anticipated to be payable by Company, for any actual, direct, customary, third party, out-of-pocket costs and expenses of auditing, administering and collecting moneys paid and/or owing to Company from licensees (including without limitation collections account management fees and licensing intermediaries) and of paying taxes (but not income taxes) and other administrative expenses of Company;
 3. the fees and expenses actually paid by Company to any unaffiliated sales representative or sales agent, and to the attorney(s) for their reasonable fees solely in connection with the Services; and
 4. the repayment of any loans until such lenders have been distributed an aggregate amount equal to their principal loan amounts, plus the interest and expenses of such loans.
- ii. Then, one hundred percent (100%) to the Class B Non-Managing Members, if any, pro rata on the basis of their respective Percentage Interests, until each Class B Non-Managing Member shall have been distributed an aggregate amount equal to its Capital Contribution, plus a fixed premium of twenty percent (20%) of such Non-Managing Member's Capital Account in Class B Unit(s) (the "Class B Preferred Return");
 - iii. Then, to any and all deferments payable in connection with the Company, if any; and
 - iv. Thereafter, the remaining balance (the "Net Proceeds") shall be allocated as follows: (i) fifty percent (50%) to the Class A Managing Member allocated pro rata on the basis of their respective percentages of the Class A Units set forth in Schedule "A" and any third party participants as determined by the Class A Managing Member in its sole discretion and (ii) fifty percent (50%) to the Class B Non-Managing Members allocated pro rata pari passu on the basis of their respective Percentage Interests as related to the other Class B Non-Managing Members set forth in Schedule "B."
- 5.4 Limitation Upon Distributions. No distribution shall be declared and paid under section 5.03 unless, after the distribution is made, the assets of the Company would be in excess of all liabilities of the Company, except liabilities to Members on account of their Capital Contributions.
- 5.5 Loans to Company. The Class A Managing Member(s) shall be permitted to obtain secured or unsecured loans to the Company by agreement from the Members or independent third parties, if in the Class A Managing Member(s) reasonable business judgment the loan(s) is/are

reasonably necessary or appropriate to carry out the objectives and purposes stated in 3.01(a). Nothing in this Operating Agreement shall prevent or obligate any Member from making secured or unsecured loans to the Company by agreement with the Company, all of which loans shall be treated by the Company in the same manner as loans from independent third parties, provided, however, that all such loans fully comply with the limitations set forth in the Certificate of Formation and this Operating Agreement.

- 5.6 Books of Account. The Class A Managing Member(s) shall keep and maintain, or cause to be kept and maintained, complete and accurate books, records and accounts of the Company (the "Books"). Such Books shall be kept on a cash or accrual method of accounting and shall be closed and balanced at the end of each year. The Books shall be maintained by a competent bookkeeper in accordance with, and with the oversight of, a certified public accountant from a reputable accounting firm.
- 5.7 Inspection. Each Member shall have the right (at that Member's sole expense) to cause the Company's Books to be examined or audited (not more than once annually) at the place where the Company normally keeps such Books, by such certified public accountants as the Member may choose. Any such examination or audit shall be conducted during Company's normal business hours in such a manner as not to materially interfere with the normal conduct of Company's business and for not more than fifteen (15) business days. The Class A Managing Member(s) shall provide such certified public accountants with the complete Books and records of the Company and reasonable office space for performance of the audit. If such office space is not available, then the certified public accountants shall be permitted to cause a copy of all the Books and records to be made by a reputable commercial copying firm, such that the audit may be performed at a location of the certified public accountants' election. No Member shall hinder the work of such certified public accountants.
- 5.8 Bank Accounts. Company shall maintain one or more accounts in a bank which is a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, in which shall be deposited the receipts and income received by the Company from its operations (including all amounts borrowed from third parties). All amounts required by this Section 5.08 to be deposited in said accounts shall be and remain the property of the Company, and shall be received, held and disbursed solely for the benefit of the Company in accordance with this Operating Agreement. There shall not be deposited in said accounts any funds other than those above specified, and no other funds shall be in any way commingled with such funds.
- 5.9 Reports.
- (a) Within seventy-five (75) days after the end of the Company's fiscal year or earlier if required by law, the Class A Managing Member(s) shall furnish each Member with all information necessary for the preparation of such Member's United States income tax returns, including informational reports required by the Code or U.S. Treasury Regulations.
 - (b) Within ninety (90) days after the end of each fiscal year of the Company's operations, the Class A Managing Member(s) shall prepare or cause to be prepared and provide to each Member an annual report containing a balance sheet as at the end of such year and statements of income and members' equity, which shall be prepared in accordance with accounting principles set forth herein this Operating Agreement.
 - (c) At such times and from time to time as shall be determined by the Class A Managing

Member(s), or pursuant to any request submitted by Class B Non-Managing Members holding more than fifty (50%) percent of Class B Units, the Class A Managing Member(s) shall furnish all Members with a report describing the progress of the Company's operations and business and the development of its operations and business as contemplated in this Operating Agreement, as well as any other matter material to such operations and business.

- (d) The Class A Managing Member(s), at the expense of the Company, shall cause tax returns to be timely filed on behalf of the Company, reflecting the Company income and expense for federal income tax purposes, or for purposes of any other jurisdiction where the Company conducts operations and which requires income tax returns, presenting the transactions of the Company in conformity with this Operating Agreement and applicable law. A copy of each return for each fiscal year shall be furnished by the Class A Managing Member(s) to each Member within thirty (30) days after filing thereof. The Class A Managing Member(s) hereby designate Roxanne Taylor as the Tax Matters Partner for purposes of executing the duties described in Sections 6221 through 6233 of the Code and the U.S. Treasury Regulations thereunder.

ARTICLE VI

MANAGEMENT, POWERS OF THE CLASS A MANAGING MEMBER, AND ALLOCATION OF CLASS A UNITS

6.1 Employment and Expenses.

- (a) The Class A Managing Member(s) shall be entitled to receive from Company reimbursement for all reasonable, out-of-pocket costs and expenses incurred by Class A Managing Member(s), whether prior or subsequent to the date hereof, and allocable to Company and consistent with the business and purpose of Company as set forth in Article III hereof, including, without limitation, all costs and expenses in connection with the organization of Company, and those expenses specified by way of example, but not by limitation, in Section 1.01 hereof. All costs and expenses incurred by the Class A Managing Member(s) shall be reimbursed in the amounts expended.
- (b) The Members agree that Class A Managing Member(s) may provide services on behalf of the Company, and be compensated for such services in reasonable amounts commensurate with the Budget, which amounts also shall be generally consistent with rates and costs that would be charged by others for similar services. All such services shall be performed to industry or professional standard, as applicable.
- (c) The Company may contract for services for the benefit of the Company with Persons furnishing rights or performing services as reasonably determined by the Class A Managing Member(s) to be in the best interests of the Company and compensate such Persons in an amount commensurate with the Budget.

6.2 Management.

- (a) The business and affairs of the Company shall be managed primarily by the Class A Managing Member(s) subject to this Operating Agreement. Subject to this Operating Agreement, the Class A Managing Member(s) shall direct, manage and control the business of the Company in their reasonable business judgment to fulfill the objects and purposes set out in section 3.01. The Class A Managing Member(s) shall have authority, power and discretion to manage and control the business, affairs and properties of the Company, to make decisions regarding those matters and to perform any and all other acts or activities customary or incident to the management of the Company's business, provided, that all such authority, power and discretion shall be exercised solely for the benefit of the Company in the performance of its business as set out in section 3.01.
- 6.3 Non-Exclusivity of Manager(s). The Class A Managing Member(s) shall devote sufficient time to the management of the Company's business as is reasonably required to achieve the business purposes of the Company set out in this Operating Agreement. Subject to the immediately preceding sentence, The Class A Managing Member(s) shall not be required to manage the Company as their sole and exclusive function and may have other business interests and engage in other activities in addition to those relating to the Company. Neither the Company nor any other Member shall have any right, by virtue of this Operating Agreement, to share or participate in such other investments or activities of the Class A Managing Member(s) or in the income or proceeds derived therefrom. The Class A Managing Member(s) have the right to engage in any other business of any nature or type whatsoever, including, without limitation, provided that no such project shall be based upon or use any of the intellectual property.
- 6.4 Powers of the Class A Managing Member(s). Without limiting the generality or restrictions of Section 6.02, and subject to express rights granted to the other Members under this Operating Agreement, the Class A Managing Member(s) shall have power and authority to cause the Company:
- (a) To borrow money for the Company from banks, other lending institutions and/or individuals, Members, or affiliates of the Class A Managing Member(s) or Members on such terms as the Class A Managing Member(s) deem appropriate, and in connection therewith, to hypothecate, encumber and grant security interests in the assets of the Company to secure repayment of the borrowed sums. No debt shall be contracted or liability incurred by or on behalf of the Company except by the Class A Managing Member(s), or to the extent permitted under the California Act, by agents or employees of the Company expressly authorized to contract such debt or incur such liability by the Class A Managing Member(s);
 - (b) To purchase liability and other insurance in customary forms and amounts to protect the Company's property and business;
 - (c) To hold and own any Company real and/or personal properties solely in the name of the Company;
 - (d) To invest any Company funds in interest bearing checking or other accounts account(s) in federally insured banking institutions;
 - (e) To guaranty the obligations of entities in which the Company is a shareholder, member or partner, and other entities which in the opinion of the Class A Managing Member(s) will be in the interest of the Company or its Members, provided a Majority-in-Interest of the Class B Non-Managing Members, have approved such guaranty.

- (f) To execute on behalf of the Company all instruments and documents, including, without limitation, contracts; agreements; checks; drafts; notes and other negotiable instruments; mortgages or deeds of trust; security agreements; financing statements; leases, partnership agreements, guarantees, operating agreements of other limited liability companies; and any other instruments or documents necessary in the opinion of the Class A Managing Member(s), to the business of the Company;
- (g) To employ accountants, legal counsel, managing agents or other experts to perform services for the Company and to compensate them from Company funds;
- (h) To enter into any and all other agreements on behalf of the Company, with any other Person for any purpose, in such forms as the Class A Managing Member(s) may approve, including but not limited to any and all agreements relating to exploitation of the Service; and
- (i) To do and perform all other acts as may be necessary or appropriate to the conduct of the Company's business.

Unless authorized to do so by this Operating Agreement or by the Class A Managing Member(s), no Member, attorney-in-fact, employee or other agent of the Company shall have any power or authority to bind the Company in any way, to pledge its credit or to render it liable monetarily for any purpose. No Member shall have any power or authority to bind the Company unless the Member has been authorized by the Class A Managing Member(s) to act as an agent of the Company in accordance with the previous sentence.

- 6.5 Standard of Care. The Class A Managing Member(s) shall not be liable, responsible or accountable in damages or otherwise to the Company or to the other Members for any act performed by them, respectively, in good faith and without willful misconduct, gross negligence, or breach of fiduciary duty.
- 6.6 Indemnification. To the extent not inconsistent with applicable law, the Company agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Class A Managing Member(s), and their respective agents and representatives, from and against all damages, costs, expenses, losses, claims, demands, liabilities and/or obligations, including, without limitation, reasonable fees and disbursements of counsel, arising from, relating to, or in any way sustained or incurred by any action or in action on the part of the Class A Managing Member(s) or any such Person, except to the extent attributable to breach of the standard of care hereinabove set forth. Any such indemnification shall be from and limited to the assets of the Company, provided, that in the event of any claim against any Class A Managing Member, the Class A Managing Member shall give notice thereof to the other Members, the other Members shall have the right, through counsel, to select counsel and defend the claim, further provided, that if the claim is found to have arisen due to a breach of the standard of care set forth in section 6.05, then the Class A Managing Members shall indemnify the other Members for the costs of such defense.

ARTICLE VII

MEETINGS

- 7.01 Notice Of Meetings. The Class A Managing Member(s) may at any time call a meeting or a vote of the Members in order to obtain any approval or consent of the Members hereunder or under the California Act, and shall, for such purpose, call for such meeting or vote, and give written notice thereof, within ten (10) days following receipt of written request therefor of

Members holding more than a Majority-in-Interest of the Percentage Interests. The Class A Managing Member(s) shall mail written notice of any such meeting or vote to all Members of record as of the date of mailing and to the most recent addresses shown on the records of the Company, and such notice shall include the purpose or requested purpose of such meeting or vote. Any such meeting or vote shall be held not less than fifteen (15) nor more than sixty (60) days following mailing of the notice. All expenses of the meeting or vote and of notice thereof shall be borne by the Company except the costs of attending the meeting incurred by a Member shall be borne by the Member.

ARTICLE VIII

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

- 8.1 Limitation of Liability. The debts, obligations and liabilities of the Company, whether arising in contract, tort or otherwise, shall be solely the debt, obligation and liability of the Company and, except for violations of the standard of care under section 6.06, not of any of the Members. Each Member's liability shall be limited as set forth in this Operating Agreement, the California Act and other applicable law.
- 8.2 No Priority and Return of Capital. Except as provided for above in Article V, no Member shall have priority over any other Member, either as to the return of Capital Contributions or as to Net Profits, Net Losses or Company distributions; provided that this Section shall not apply to loans (as distinguished from Capital Contributions) which a Member has made to the Company within the limitations of this Operating Agreement and, as applicable, the Articles of Organization.

ARTICLE IX

TRANSFER OR ASSIGNMENT OF COMPANY INTEREST

- 9.1 Limitations on Pledges, Hypothecations and Encumbrances. No Member shall pledge, hypothecate or encumber, directly or indirectly, all or any part of its interest in the Company, or resign or withdraw from the Company, voluntarily or involuntarily, except as provided in this Operating Agreement or with the prior written approval of the Class A Managing Member(s).
- 9.2 Transfer by Operation of Law. Upon the death, bankruptcy, insolvency, liquidation or dissolution of a Member, its interest in the Company shall descend to and vest in its legal representatives or other successors.
- 9.3 Transfer of Class A Managing Member's Interest. The Class A Managing Member(s) may not sell, transfer or assign its interest in the Company, or any part thereof, without the prior written consent of a majority of all the Members (as determined by percentage interest), which consent may be withheld in any Member's absolute discretion, or if such conveyance would be in violation of the provisions of Section 9.06 hereof. An assignee of the Class A Managing Member(s) without such majority consent shall not be admitted to the Company as a substituted Class A Managing Member(s). No Person to whom any part of such interest may be purported to have been sold or assigned shall be allocated any interest in the capital, and in the profit and losses of the Company, unless such sale or assignment complies with this Operating Agreement.
- 9.4 Transfer of Class B Non-Managing Member's Interest.

- (a) Subject to the provisions of Section 9.6 hereof, a Class B Non-Managing Member, may sell, transfer, or assign its interest in the Company, or any part hereof, only with the prior written consent of the Class A Managing Member(s), such consent not to be unreasonably withheld in circumstances where the proposed transferee has a demonstrated financial capability to perform, provided, that a Member may sell, transfer, or assign its interest in the Company to an entity wholly owned by the Member or to an entity wholly owned by the Member's majority direct or indirect owner without restriction.
 - (b) Except as set forth under Sections 9.2 and 9.3, the Class A Managing Member(s) shall have the power, in Class A Managing Member(s)' sole discretion, to admit, as substituted Members, those Persons or entities who acquire an interest in the Company, or any part thereof, of a Member.
 - (c) The admission of an assignee as a substituted Member shall be conditioned upon such Person's written acceptance and adoption of all the terms and provisions of this Operating Agreement. The Class A Managing Member(s) shall require such Person to pay any filing fees and reasonable counsel fees incurred in connection with such party becoming a substituted Member hereunder.
- 9.5 Rights of Transferees. Any Person who acquires, in any manner whatsoever, any interest in the Company from a Member shall not thereby become a Member, provided that such Person shall acquire the interest of his predecessor-in-interest in Company profits, losses, Gross Receipts, distributions and capital immediately prior to said transfer. Irrespective of whether such Person has accepted and adopted in writing the terms and provisions of this Operating Agreement, such Person shall be deemed by the acceptance of the benefit of the acquisition of such interest to have agreed to be subject to and bound by all the obligations of this Operating Agreement that any predecessor in interest of such Person was subject to or bound by. Such Person shall have only rights which are set forth in this Operating Agreement, and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, he shall not have any right to have the value of his interest ascertained or to receive the value of such interest or, in lieu thereof, profits attributable to any right in the Company, except as herein set forth.
- 9.6 Restrictions on Transfer. No sale or exchange of an interest in the Company may be made by a Member:
- (a) if the interest sought to be sold or exchanged, when added to the total of all other interests sold or exchanged within the period of twelve (12) consecutive months prior thereto, results in the termination of the Company under Section 708 of the Code, as amended, unless all of the Members shall consent in writing to such sale or exchange;
 - (b) if counsel for the Company shall not have determined that the intended disposition is permissible under this Operating Agreement and does not violate any federal or state securities laws, or the rules and regulations thereunder; or
 - (c) to a Person who is a minor or a bankrupt, to a Person who has been declared an incompetent or to a Person or organization prohibited by law from holding such interest.
- 9.7 Amendment of Certificate. Upon the bankruptcy, insolvency, liquidation or dissolution of a Member, or the admission of a substituted Member hereunder, the Class A Managing Member(s) shall forthwith cause an amendment to the Certificate of Formation and any other necessary papers to be filed, recorded, and published wherever necessary or appropriate showing the appropriate changes in the Members of the Company.

ARTICLE X

AMENDMENTS

- 10.1 Power to Amend. Amendments to this Operating Agreement to reflect the addition or substitution of a Member shall be made at the time and in the manner referred to in this Article X. Except as otherwise herein provided, all other amendments to this Agreement shall require the written consent of all Members.
- 10.2 Proposed Amendments by Class A Managing Member(s). From time to time the Class A Managing Member(s) may propose amendments to this Operating Agreement to (i) add to the duties or obligations of the Class A Managing Member(s) or surrender any right or power granted to the Class A Managing Member(s) herein; and (ii) cure any ambiguity or correct or supplement any provisions hereof which may be inconsistent with any other provision hereof or correct any printing, stenographic or clerical errors or omissions.
- 10.3 Execution of Amendments. Upon the adoption of any amendment to this Operating Agreement by the Members, the amendment shall be executed by all of the Members, and shall be recorded in the proper records of the State of California and of each jurisdiction in which recordation is necessary for the Company to conduct business or to preserve the limited liability of the Members.
- 10.4 Amendments on Admission or Withdrawal of Members. If this Operating Agreement shall be amended to reflect the admission or substitution of a Member in accordance with this Operating Agreement, the amendment to this Operating Agreement shall be adopted, executed and sworn to by all Members, the party to be substituted or added and the assigning Member. Any such amendment may be executed by the Class A Managing Member(s), on behalf of the remaining Members, the substituted or added Members, and the assigning Member pursuant to the power of attorney granted in this Operating Agreement.
- 10.5 Amendment of Certificate. In the event this Agreement shall be amended pursuant to this Article X, the Class A Managing Member(s) shall amend the Certificate to reflect such change if they deem such amendment to be necessary.

ARTICLE XI

DISSOLUTION AND TERMINATION

- 11.1 Dissolution.
- (a) The Company shall be dissolved upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
- i. when the period fixed for the duration of the Company shall expire pursuant to Section 2.05 hereof; or
 - ii. by the written decision of the Majority-in-Interest of the Members; or

- iii. the death or physical incapacity of a Class A Managing Member to perform the business of the Company under this Operating Agreement or procure substitute performance thereof acceptable to the Majority-in-Interest of the Members; or
 - iv. Any and all rights arising from or relating to the Service have been exploited or are not subject to exploitation or further exploitation; or
 - v. The entry by a California Court of proper jurisdiction of a decree of dissolution.
- (b) As soon as possible following the occurrence of any of the events specified in this Section effecting the dissolution of the Company, the appropriate representative of the Company shall execute the Articles of Dissolution in such form as shall be prescribed by the State of California shall file the same with the Department of State.
- (c) If a Member who is an individual dies or a court of competent jurisdiction adjudges him to be incompetent to manage his or her person or his or her property, the Member's executor, administrator, guardian, conservator, or other legal representative may exercise all of the Member's rights for the purpose of settling his or his estate or administering his or his property.
- 11.2 Effect of Filing of Articles of Dissolution. Upon the filing of the Articles of Dissolution, the Company shall cease to carry on its business, except insofar as may be necessary for the winding up of its business.
- 11.3 Winding Up, Liquidation and Distribution of Assets.
- (a) Upon dissolution, an accounting shall be made by the Company's independent accountants of the accounts of the Company and of the Company's assets, liabilities and operations, from the date of the last previous accounting until the date of dissolution. The Class A Managing Member(s) shall immediately proceed to wind up the affairs of the Company.
 - (b) If the Company is dissolved and its affairs are to be wound up, the Class A Managing Member(s) shall:
 - i. Sell or otherwise liquidate all of the Company's assets as promptly as practicable (except to the extent the Class A Managing Member(s) may determine to distribute any assets to the Members in kind);
 - ii. Pay or provide for the payment of all of the Company's liabilities and liquidating expenses and obligations. If assets are to be distributed to the Members in kind, Members shall accept the assets subject to their proportionate Membership Interest share of the Company's losses;
 - iii. Pay pro rata any loans or advances that may have been made by any of the Members to the Company;
 - iv. Allocate any profit or loss resulting from such sales to the Members' Capital Accounts;

- v. Establish such reserves as may be reasonably necessary to provide for contingent liabilities of the Company;
- vi. Distribute the remaining assets in the following order:
 - (A) If any assets of the Company are to be distributed in kind, the net fair market value of such assets as of the date of dissolution shall be determined by independent appraisal or by agreement of the Members. Such assets shall be deemed to have been sold as of the date of dissolution for their fair market value, and the Capital Accounts of the Members shall be adjusted pursuant to the provisions of Section 5.03 of this Operating Agreement to reflect such deemed sale.
 - (B) The positive balance (if any) of each Member's Capital Account (as determined after taking into account all Capital Account adjustments for the Company's taxable year during which the liquidation occurs) shall be distributed to the Members, either in cash or in kind, as determined by the Class A Managing Member(s), with any assets distributed in kind being valued for this purpose at their fair market value. Any such distributions to the Members in respect of their Capital Accounts shall be made in accordance with the time requirements set forth in Section 1.704-1 (b)(2)(ii)(b)(2) of the Treasury Regulations.
 - (C) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Operating Agreement, upon a liquidation, if any Member has a Deficit Capital Account (after giving effect to all contributions, distributions, allocations and other Capital Account adjustments for all taxable years, including the year during which such liquidation occurs), such Member shall have no obligation to make any Capital Contribution, and the negative balance of such Member's Capital Account shall not be considered a debt owed by such Member to the Company or to any other Person for any purpose whatsoever.
 - (D) A reasonable time shall be allowed for the orderly liquidation of the assets of the Company and the discharge of the liabilities to creditors so as to enable the Class A Managing Member(s) to minimize the normal losses attendant upon a liquidation. Upon completion of the winding up, liquidation and distribution of the assets, the Company shall be deemed terminated.
 - (E) The Class A Managing Member(s) shall comply with any applicable requirements of applicable law pertaining to the winding up of the affairs of the Company and the final distribution of its assets.

ARTICLE XII

INTENTIONALLY OMITTED

ARTICLE XIII

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 13.1 Notices. Any notice, demand, or communication required or permitted to be given by any provision of this Operating Agreement shall be deemed to have been sufficiently given or served for all purposes if in writing and delivered personally or by reputable courier to the Member or, if sent by registered or certified mail, postage and charges prepaid, addressed to the Member's address, as appropriate, which is set forth in this Operating Agreement, or such other address as shall hereafter be designated by notice to the Class A Managing Member(s). Except as otherwise provided herein, any such notice shall be deemed to be given three business days after the date on which the same was deposited in the United States mail, addressed and sent as aforesaid, or upon delivery if delivered personally or by reputable courier.
- 13.2 Power of Attorney. Each Member hereby constitutes and appoints the Class A Managing Member(s), its true and lawful attorney(s), in its name, place and stead, to make, execute, consent to, swear to, acknowledge, record and file:
- (a) Any and all amendments to the Articles of Organization, and any instrument which may be required to be filed by the Company or the Members under the laws of the State of California and any amendments or modification of such instruments, provided that this power of attorney shall not be construed to authorize any such amendments without the unanimous consent of the Members; and
 - (b) All certificates and other instruments which may be required to effect the dissolution and termination of the Company pursuant to the provisions hereof; provided, however, that the Class A Managing Member(s) shall not take any action as attorney(s)-in-act for any Member which could in any way increase the liability of such Member beyond his liability expressly set forth herein or which could in any way materially adversely affect any of the rights of such Member hereunder.
 - (c) It is expressly understood and intended by the Members that the grant of each of the foregoing powers of attorney is coupled with an interest and shall be irrevocable.
- 13.3 Application of California Law. This Operating Agreement and the application or interpretation hereof, shall be governed exclusively by its terms and by the laws of the State of California, and specifically the California Act.
- 13.4 Execution of Additional Instruments. Each Member hereby agrees to execute such other and further statements of interests and holdings, designations, powers of attorney and other instruments necessary to comply with any laws, or rules or regulations of a governmental authority with jurisdiction over the Company.
- 13.5 Construction. Whenever the singular number is used in this Operating Agreement and when required by the context, the same shall include the plural and vice versa, and the masculine gender shall include the feminine and neuter genders and vice versa.
- 13.6 Headings; Schedules. The headings in this Operating Agreement are inserted for convenience only and are in no way intended to describe, interpret, define, or limit the scope,

extent or intent of this Operating Agreement or any provision hereof. The Schedules attached to this Operating Agreement are incorporated herein and made expressly a part hereof as though set out in the body hereof.

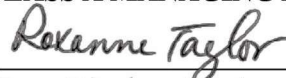
- 13.7 Waivers. The failure of any party to seek redress for violation of or to insist upon the strict performance of any covenant or condition of this Operating Agreement shall not prevent a subsequent act, which would have originally constituted a violation, from having the effect of an original violation.
- 13.8 Rights and Remedies Cumulative. The rights and remedies provided by this Operating Agreement are cumulative and the use of any one right or remedy by any party shall not preclude or waive the right to use any or all other remedies. Said rights and remedies are given in addition to any other rights the parties may have by law, statute, ordinance or otherwise.
- 13.9 No Equitable Relief. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in contained herein, in the event of a breach of this Operating Agreement, each Member's remedies shall be limited solely to an action at law for monetary damages actually suffered, if any. In no event shall any Member(s) be entitled to (a) seek to or obtain injunctive or other equitable relief in connection herewith (or any rights therein, thereto, or in connection therewith) or (b) restrain or otherwise interfere with the development, exhibition, promotion, advertising, any rights therein or thereto. Each Member irrevocably waives any right to equitable or injunctive relief.
- 13.10 Severability. If any provision of this Operating Agreement or the application thereof to any Person or circumstance shall be invalid, illegal or unenforceable to any extent, the remainder of this Operating Agreement and the application thereof shall not be affected and shall be enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.
- 13.11 Heirs, Successors and Assigns. Each and all of the covenants, terms, provisions and agreements herein contained shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and, to the extent permitted by this Operating Agreement, their respective heirs, legal representatives, successors and assigns.
- 13.12 Creditors. None of the provisions of this Operating Agreement shall be for the benefit of or enforceable by any creditors of the Company.
- 13.13 Entire Agreement. This Operating Agreement sets forth the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings between the parties.
- 13.14 Expenses. Each of the parties hereto shall bear such party's own expenses in connection with this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby.
- 13.15 Disputes. With respect to any disputes arising out of or relating to this Operating Agreement between or among any of the Members, any such disputes, questions, controversies or claims between them shall be submitted to binding arbitration. EACH MEMBER WAIVES ITS RIGHT TO A COURT OR JURY TRIAL. This agreement to arbitrate applies to, but is not limited to, all disputes regarding the construction or application of this Operating Agreement, all claims arising under federal, state, or local statutory or common law, including: claims of breach of promise(s), breach of contract or breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing, tort claims, and any other claims of illegality or breach of any

right which the Member(s) might hold with respect to the other whether under this Operating Agreement or otherwise. The arbitration shall be administered by the American Arbitration Association, in accordance with its rules and procedures. The arbitration shall take place in Los Angeles, CA before a single neutral arbitrator from the panel of AAA. The arbitrator shall be a retired state or federal judge with at least ten (10) years experience. The Rules of Evidence, including the rules relating to hearsay, will apply to the arbitration. The parties shall have the right to take depositions and to conduct all other discovery available in civil actions. The arbitrator shall issue a written decision and award including the essential findings and conclusions on which the award is based. The opinion and award will decide all issues submitted and shall be final and binding to the fullest extent permitted by law and will be enforceable by any court having jurisdiction. To the extent allowed by California law, the arbitrator shall be required to follow all applicable substantive law. The arbitrator shall grant any legally meritorious motion for summary judgment presented by any party. It is understood and agreed that each of the parties shall bear its, his or her own attorneys' fees, expert fees, consulting fees, and other litigation costs (if any) ordinarily associated with legal proceedings taking place in a judicial forum, unless the arbitrator orders otherwise. Except as otherwise limited or prohibited by this Agreement, the arbitrator shall be permitted to award those remedies, including, without limitation, attorney's fees, in law or equity, which are requested by the parties and which the arbitrator determines to be supported by credible and relevant evidence presented. The party who prevails in any arbitration may seek to have the arbitrator's award confirmed as a judgment of the California Court and/or the United States District Court located in California.

- 13.16 Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts by facsimile, scan (i.e., pdf), or email signatures, each part of which when executed shall be deemed an original for all purposes, and all of which when taken together shall constitute one and the same document, fully binding and with full legal force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have hereunto set their hands and seals as of the date first above written.

CLASS A MANAGING MEMBER



Roxanne Taylor

SCHEDULE "A"
Class A Managing Members Membership Interests
Comprising 50% of Percentage Interests

Name and Address	Contribution	Class A Membership Interest	Percentage Interest
<u>Robert Smith</u> _____		50 %	20%
Deon Taylor		16.67%	
Roxanne Taylor		16.67%	
Darrick Angelone		16.66%	

**Class B Non-Managing Members
Comprising 50% of Percentage Interests**

Name and Address	Capital Contribution In US\$ or Determined In- Kind Contribution Monetary Value	Class B Membership Interest	Percentage Interest
Robert F. Smith			50%
Deon Taylor			16.67%
Roxanne Taylor			16.67%
Darrick Angelone			16.66%

Exhibit B

HYPER ENGINE

A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

OPERATING AGREEMENT

Hidden Empire Film Group (66.67%), Aone Entertainment (33.33%) and any subsequently added members hereinafter referred to as “Members,” agree to the following:

ARTICLE 1. NATURE OF COMPANY

Company Purpose

1.01. The Members voluntarily associate themselves as General Members for the purpose of engaging in the general practice of marketing.

Name

1.02. The name of the Company, herein called "firm name," shall be *Hyper Engine, LLC*.

Term

1.03. The Company shall commence on December 15, 2019 and shall continue until dissolved by mutual agreement of the parties or terminated as provided in this Agreement.

Location

1.04. The Company offices shall be located at 5410 Wilshire Boulevard, 10th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90036, or any other place or places in Los Angeles County, California, that may be designated by majority vote of the Members.

ARTICLE 2. FINANCIAL

Capital

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A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

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2.01. The initial capital of the Company shall consist of:

(a) Hidden Empire Film Group will be providing initial capital in the form of staff, resources, supplies and other expenses incidental to the Company business.

(b) All the physical assets and the intangible assets, including client lists, accounts receivable and work in progress which are contributed to this Company by those persons.

(c) The term "work in progress" as used in this section means matters, cases, or other activities requiring the rendition of services commenced prior to but not completed at the date of this Agreement by any of the former Companies or practices mentioned in this section, referred to in this Agreement as "existing" firms. Each such matter, case, or activity shall be completed by this Company. The charges for completion shall be billed and collected by this Company, and shall, on receipt, be allocated between the existing firm involved and this Company in a manner determined by majority vote of all Members.

(d) Accounts receivable of the existing firms shall be billed and collected by this Company but at all times shall remain the property of the existing firms and their members. Any payments received on any accounts receivable shall be promptly paid to the existing firm whose property it remains. Any practices, other than normal billing and accounting procedures, required to collect any such accounts receivable shall be undertaken by the existing firm whose property it remains and not by this Company.

(e) "Client lists" as used herein shall mean all client information, billing records, accounts, work in progress related to those accounts, and all after-acquired information, records, accounts and client matters, contributed to the Company by the respective Members. On dissolution of the Company or dissociation of any Member, other than by death, disability, or expulsion, all such client lists shall be distributed in-kind to the Member who contributed such client lists to the Company pursuant to this Agreement.

Withdrawal of Capital

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A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

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2.02. No portion of the Company capital may be withdrawn at any time without the consent of all the Members.

Interest on Capital

2.03. No Member shall be entitled to interest on contributions to the capital of the Company.

Profits and Losses

2.04. The net Company profits shall initially be used to reimburse Hidden Empire Film Group for its initial capital investment. The net Company profits shall then be divided 66.67% to Hidden Empire Film Group, and 33.33% to Aone Entertainment. The net Company losses shall be divided 66.67% to Hidden Empire Film Group, and 33.33% to Aone Entertainment.

Profits of Deceased or Terminated Member

2.05. On the death of a Member or on the withdrawal, retirement, or expulsion of a Member as provided in this Agreement, that Member's distributive share of the future Company profits and losses shall be divided among the remaining Members in accord with their percentage interests as specified in Paragraph 2.04 of this Agreement.

Expenses

2.06. All rents, payments for office or professional supplies, professional dues, premiums for insurance, wages, salaries, and other expenses incidental to the Company business shall be paid out of the profits or capital of the Company and shall, for the purpose of this Agreement, be considered ordinary and necessary expenses of the Company business deductible before net profits are determined.

Salaries

2.07. No Member shall receive a base salary for services rendered to or in the Company business.

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A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

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Draws

2.08. During each calendar year each Member shall be entitled to withdraw from the Company funds in equal monthly installments an amount equal to but not in excess of 100% of his or her distributive share of Company net profits for the preceding year. Each withdrawal by a Member shall be charged against his or her distributive share of the net Company profits for the year in which made. Each Member shall be entitled, at the end of any calendar year, to withdraw the balance of his or her distributive share of the Company net profits for the year after making the capital contribution, if any, required by Paragraph 2.03 of this Agreement; provided, however, the withdrawals made by the Members during the first calendar year of the Company shall not exceed the following amounts each month: \$20,000.00.

Fees

2.9. The amount charged by each Member for marketing services rendered in connection with the Company business shall be twelve percent (12%). However, each Member may render marketing services for any member of his or her immediate family without charge and may, on approval of the Members having a majority interest in the Company profits and losses, render marketing services without charge or at less than regular charge to any professional, civic, educational, religious, or charitable organization or project.

Bank Accounts

2.10. All Company funds shall be deposited in bank accounts designated by majority vote of the Members. The Members shall also designate by majority vote two Members, one of whom shall be the Managing Member, who shall be authorized to sign checks and make withdrawals from such bank accounts. All checks and withdrawals on or from any such bank account shall require the signatures of two authorized Members.

Books

2.11. Complete and accurate accounts of all Company transactions shall be kept in proper books, and each Member shall enter in those books a full and accurate

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A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

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account of all transactions conducted by that Member on behalf of the Company. The books of account and other Company records shall be kept in the Company place of business at all times, and each Member shall have access to, and may inspect and copy, any of them at any time.

Method of Accounting

2.12. The Company books of account shall be kept on a cash and calendar year basis.

Accountings

2.13. As soon after December 31 in each year as is reasonably practicable, a complete and accurate accounting shall be made of all Company receipts and disbursements during the preceding calendar year. The net Company profits or losses during that year shall be ascertained and credited or debited, as the case may be, on the Company books, to the respective Members in the proportions specified in Paragraph 2.04 of this Agreement.

Capital Accounts

2.14. An individual capital account shall be maintained for each Member. Each Member's capital account shall consist of his or her contribution to the initial capital, any additional contributions to the Company capital made by that Member pursuant to this Agreement, and any amounts transferred from his or her income account to Company capital pursuant to this Agreement.

Income Accounts

2.15. An individual income account shall be maintained for each Member. At the end of each calendar year each Member's share of the Company net profits or losses shall be credited or debited to, and his or her withdrawals during the year deducted from, that income account. Except as provided in Paragraph 2.03 of this Agreement, amounts may be transferred from a Member's income account to the Company only by majority vote of the Members.

Amounts in Income Accounts

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A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

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2.16. Any amount credited to a Member's income account on any regular Company accounting provided for in this Agreement shall constitute a liability of the Company to that Member payable without interest on demand.

ARTICLE 3. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS

Vacations and Sick Leave

3.01. Each Member shall devote full time, knowledge, and skill to the Company business. Each Member shall be entitled to vacations, sick leave, and absences from the Company business in the following manner:

(a) Each Member shall be entitled to four (4) weeks' vacation in each calendar year to be taken at such times as may be most convenient to the Company. Any vacation not used in one year may be used in a future year only with the approval and to the extent agreed on by majority vote of the Members.

(b) Each Member shall be entitled to one (1) week sick leave each calendar year without adjustment in earnings because of actual sickness or accident to the Member or any member of the Member's immediate family. Sick leave not used in one year may not be carried over to future years or used for additional vacation.

(c) In addition to sick leave, each Member who becomes pregnant shall be entitled to three (3) months maternity leave during any twelve-month period without adjustment in earnings.

(d) Each Member, in addition to the vacation and sick leave provided for in this Section shall be entitled to be absent from the Company business for thirty (30) days each calendar year for the purpose of attending professional meetings or postgraduate courses.

(e) If any Member's vacation or sick leave exceeds the limits specified in this Section for any year, that Member's distributive share of the net Company profits for the year shall be reduced at the rate of 1.9 percent $[1/52]$ for each week the vacation or sick leave exceeds the limits specified in this Section without the consent of a majority of the remaining Members. The amount by which any

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A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

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Member's distributive share of Company net profits is reduced pursuant to this provision shall be credited to the other Members according to their percentage interests in those profits as specified in Paragraph 2.04 of this Agreement.

Management

3.02. In addition to other matters specified in this Agreement, the following matters shall be determined by majority vote of the Members as defined in Paragraph 3.05 of this Agreement:

- (a) Matters relating to general management, professional policy, and the purchase of furniture and equipment costing more than \$500.00.
- (b) The assignment of professional duties and responsibilities among the Members.
- (c) The selection of a Member to serve as Managing Member.

Statement of Company

3.03. The Members shall cause to be filed with the California Secretary of State articles of organization and bylaws setting forth the Members' rights with respect to management and control of the Company and any limitations thereon as set forth in this Agreement.

Managing Member

3.04. The Managing Member shall be selected at the beginning of each calendar year and shall serve in that capacity for the calendar year or until a successor is selected. The Managing Member shall have the duty and authority to carry out and implement decisions relating to general management and professional policy, to purchase supplies, furniture, and equipment costing less than the amount specified in Section 3.02(a), and to employ, discharge, and supervise the clerical, administrative, and other employees of the Company.

Votes

HYPER ENGINE
A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

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3.05. In any matter requiring a majority vote of the Members, each Member shall have one vote for each one percent of Company net profits distributable to the Member under Paragraph 2.04 of this Agreement during the year in which that vote is taken. "Majority vote of the Members" as used in this Agreement shall mean 51 percent of the votes cast pursuant to this Section.

Prohibited Acts

3.06. No Member shall, without the consent of all other Members:

- (a) Loan any Company funds;
- (b) Tender any marketing services to any person if requested by the Managing Member not to do so;
- (c) Incur any obligations in the name of or on the credit of the Company except in the ordinary course of the Company business; or
- (d) Become bail, surety, or endorser for any other person.

The Company shall be indemnified for any losses it sustains because of the breach of this paragraph by the Member committing the breach.

Personal Debts

3.07. Each Member shall pay and discharge that Member's own separate obligations as they become due, and shall protect the other Members and the Company from all costs, claims, and demands relating to his or her personal obligations.

Errors and Omissions

3.08. Each Member shall indemnify the Company for all damages and expenses for which the Company may become liable as a result of any alleged act of errors and omissions on the part of that Member to the extent that the damages and expenses are not paid or reimbursed under a policy of insurance carried by the Company.

Assignment of Interest

HYPER ENGINE
A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

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3.09. No Member shall sell, assign, mortgage, hypothecate, or encumber any interest in the Company.

ARTICLE 4. MEMBER DISSOCIATION

Withdrawal of Member

4.01. Any Member may withdraw from the Company at the end of any calendar year by giving six (6) months written notice to the other Members. On service of that notice:

(a) The dissociation of the Member from the Company will automatically become effective at the end of the calendar year in which given, unless within thirty (30) days after receiving notice the remaining Members, by written agreement signed by all of them, elect to dissolve the Company and serve written notice of their election on the dissociating Member, in which event his or her notice shall be deemed an expression of the Member's will to dissolve and wind up the Company business.

(b) If the remaining Members do not elect to dissolve the Company, the Company books shall be closed at the end of the calendar year in the usual manner. The withdrawing Member shall then be paid the balance shown in his or her capital and income accounts, increased by his or her share of Company net profits or decreased by his or her share of Company net losses during the year, and decreased further by his or her drawings against anticipated profits during the year. The net amount payable to the withdrawing Member shall not include any share in uncollected charges received by the Company subsequent to the effective date of withdrawal and shall be payable without interest in twelve (12) equal consecutive monthly installments commencing one (1) month after the effective date of dissociation.

(c) A Member may withdraw from the Company without the written advance notice required under this Paragraph, but such a withdrawal shall be considered a wrongful dissociation under [Corp. Code § 16602\(b\)\(1\)](#) and the Member will be liable for any damages caused by the wrongful dissociation under [Corp. Code § 16602\(c\)](#).

Expulsion of a Member

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A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

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4.02. Any Member may be expelled from the Company.

(a) Expulsion shall become effective on the adoption by majority vote of the remaining Members, at a meeting held after five days written notice has been given to the expelled Member, of a written resolution finding that the Member has:

(1) Engaged in personal misconduct or a willful breach of this Agreement of such a serious nature as to render the Member's continued presence in the Company personally or professionally obnoxious or detrimental to the other Members or the Company;

(2) Been expelled, suspended, or otherwise disciplined by the final action of any professional organization or duly constituted authority;

(3) Resigned from any professional organization under threat of disciplinary action;

(4) Been convicted by final action of any court of any offense punishable as a felony or involving moral turpitude; or

(5) Made an assignment for the benefit of creditors or been declared a bankrupt.

(b) The expelled Member shall be entitled to receive from the remaining Members, as soon as practical after the effective date of the dissociation, the book value of the expelled Member's Company interest as determined by a complete inventory and accounting of the Company affairs as of the close of business on the effective date of the dissociation, less any value attributable to the goodwill of the Company business and less any damages, if the expulsion was caused by willful breach of this Agreement, sustained by the remaining Members or the Company because of the breach.

Retirement of Member

4.03. Any Member may voluntarily retire from the Company at any time after the age of 65 years by giving six (6) months written notice of the intention to retire to

HYPER ENGINE
A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

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the other Members.

Disability of Member

4.04. Any Member who is disabled because of illness, accident, or other cause, and therefore unable to perform six (6) months or longer may be retired from the Company by majority vote of the other Members.

Payment for Company Interest

Section 4.05(a). On the dissociation of a Member due to retirement under Paragraph 4.03, or because of disability under Paragraph 4.04, the Company shall pay to the person legally entitled thereto, in full liquidation of that Member's interest in the Company, the following amounts:

- (a) An amount each month for thirty-six (36) consecutive months following the retirement or death of the Member that is equal to one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the Member's average monthly earnings from the Company in the five (5) years immediately preceding the Member's retirement or death during which the Member was a member of the Company; plus
- (b) The Member's distributive share of the Company net profits for its current year to the date of retirement or death, less withdrawals made by the Member against those profits, payable thirty (30) days after the date of retirement or death; plus
- (c) An amount equal to the balance in the Member's capital and income accounts on the date of retirement or death, payable without interest in four (4) consecutive equal quarterly installments beginning two (2) months after the date of retirement.

Section 4.05(b). On the dissociation of a Member due to death, the Company shall pay to the person legally entitled thereto, in full liquidation of that Member's interest in the Company, an amount to be set by a unanimous vote of the Members each year. This amount shall be paid from a term life insurance policy.

Noncompetition Clause

HYPER ENGINE
A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

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4.06. Any retired Member who engages in competition with the Company in any way during the period any amounts are payable to him or her under Subparagraph (a) of Paragraph 4.05 of this Agreement shall forfeit all right to any remaining payments due under that Subparagraph. "Competition with the Company" shall mean engaging, directly or indirectly, (including, by way of example only, as a director, principal, Member, venturer, Member, or agent), or having any direct or indirect interest, in any business similar to or competitive with that then being carried on by the Company in the County of Sacramento.

Retired Member's Right to Examine Books

4.07. Any person legally entitled to receive any payments pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 4.05 of this Agreement shall have the right to examine the Company books and records at any time during normal business hours to the extent that the examination is necessary to determine the amount of any payments set forth in Paragraph 4.05 of this Agreement.

Limitation on Payments to Dissociated Members

4.08. A dissociated Member, including a deceased Member's estate, shall not have any claim against the Company or the remaining Members, except for payments expressly provided in this Agreement to be paid to them. If the Company is dissolved before the full amount of these payments has been paid, the unpaid balance shall be paid in full before any distribution of Company assets shall be made to the remaining Members.

Dissolution

4.09. The Company may be dissolved on the affirmative vote of a majority in numbers of, but in no case less than two, Members. On dissolution of the Company, all Company assets, including any lease for office space occupied by the Company, but excluding any files or records pertaining to the affairs of clients shall be liquidated and the proceeds distributed in the manner specified in [California Corporations Code Section 16807](#) .

Files

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A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

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4.10. On any dissolution of the Company, the Member who has usually rendered marketing services for a particular client shall be entitled to the client's file unless the client requests that a different disposition be made of that file. A Member who withdraws from the Company shall be entitled only to the records or files of those clients for whom he or she regularly performed marketing services as a member of the Company and for whom he or she also rendered marketing services before becoming a member of the Company. The estate of a deceased Member shall not be entitled to any records or files of the Company except records and files relating to personal matters of the deceased Member.

ARTICLE 5. MISCELLANEOUS

Additional Members

5.01. The Members may by a unanimous vote, admit additional Members and fix the capital contributions, if any, to be made and the participation percentage in profits and losses of any additional Members. All Members shall relinquish an equal proportion of their own participation percentage in Company profits and losses to any such additional Members. However, before being admitted, each additional Member must first agree in writing to be bound by the provisions of this Agreement.

Notices

5.02. Any notices permitted or required by law or by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed duly given when personally delivered to the Member to whom they are addressed or, in lieu of personal delivery, when deposited in the United States mail, first-class postage prepaid, certified, addressed to that Member at the address that appears below that Member's signature at the end of this Agreement.

Amendments

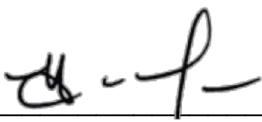
5.03. No amendment to this Agreement shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by all of the Members.

HYPER ENGINE
A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

PAGE 14 OF 14

Entered into on December 1, 2019 in Los Angeles County, California.

HIDDEN EMPIRE FILM GROUP

By: _____
Deon Taylor, Principal

AONE ENTERTAINMENT

By: _____

Its: _____

Exhibit C

BUSINESS DEBIT CARD ENROLLMENT

(This is not a credit card)

TELL US ABOUT YOUR COMPANY (PLEASE PRINT)

Business Name

H Y P E R E N G I N E L L C

Primary Business or Commercial Checking Account Number

060288396

Phone Number

(916) 257-2475

Tax ID Number

82-5286902

Business Address

8060 SHELBORNE DR

City

GRANITE BAY

State

CA

Zip

95746

(Street Address Only)

Legal Status

☐

Sole Proprietorship

☐

Partnership

☐

Corporation

☒

LLC

☐

Other

Type of Business

MOVIE PRODUCTION

Executed as an agreement on (date)

9-20-19

(Note: Authorized Representative are persons authorized to contract for the business. Authorized Representatives are required to sign this Enrollment Form)

X

Authorized Representative

ROXANNE TAYLOR

Authorized Representative (Please print name.)

X

Authorized Representative

Authorized Representative (Please print name.)

Social Security Number

Social Security Number

Preset Limit

A

B

C

D

E

(Circle one)

Preset Limit

A

B

C

D

E

(Circle one)

PRESET DAILY LIMITS	A	B	C	D	E
ATM Cash Limit	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$500	\$995
POS (Combined Signature and PIN)	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$7,000
Number of Transactions	30	30	30	30	30
Limit All Transactions	\$1,300	\$1,200	\$2,100	\$3,500	\$7,995

TELL US ABOUT ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZED CARDHOLDERS (PLEASE PRINT)

D A R R I C K A N G E L D I N E

Name of Card User (please print)

Social Security Number

Preset Limit

A

B

C

D

E

(circle one)

Name of Card User (please print)

Social Security Number

Preset Limit

A

B

C

D

E

(circle one)

Name of Card User (please print)

Social Security Number

Preset Limit

A

B

C

D

E

(circle one)

BANK USE ONLY

Employee Name/Number

Cost Center #

Ordered By

Page

of

(for multiple Authorized Reps)

Exhibit D

Home

Search

Forms

Business Search

The California Business Search provides access to available information for **corporations**, **limited liability companies** and **limited partnerships** of record with the California Secretary of State, with **free PDF copies** of over 17 million imaged business entity documents, including the most recent imaged Statements of Information filed for Corporations and Limited Liability Companies.

Currently, information for Limited Liability Partnerships (e.g. law firms, architecture firms, engineering firms, public accountancy firms, and land survey firms), General Partnerships, and other entity types are **not contained** in the California Business Search. If you wish to obtain information about LLPs and GPs, submit a Business Entities Order paper form to request copies of filings for these entity types. Note: This search is not intended to serve as a name reservation search. To reserve an entity name, select Forms on the left panel and select Entity Name Reservation ? Corporation, LLC, LP.

Basic Search

A Basic search can be performed using an entity name or entity number. When conducting a search by an entity number, where applicable, **remove "C"** from the entity number. Note, a **basic search** will search **only ACTIVE entities** (Corporations, Limited Liability Companies, Limited Partnerships, Cooperatives, Name Reservations, Foreign Name Reservations, Unincorporated Common Interest Developments, and Out of State Associations). The basic search performs a contains ?keyword? search. The Advanced search allows for a ?starts with? filter. To search entities that have a status other than active or to refine search criteria, use the **Advanced** search feature.

Advanced Search

An Advanced search is required when searching for publicly traded disclosure information or a status other than active.

An Advanced search allows for searching by specific entity types (e.g., Nonprofit Mutual Benefit Corporation) or by entity groups (e.g., All Corporations) as well as searching by ? begins with? specific search criteria.

Disclaimer: Search results are limited to the 500 entities closest matching the entered search criteria. If your desired search result is not found within the 500 entities provided, please refine the search criteria using the Advanced search function for additional results/entities. The California Business Search is updated as documents are approved. The data provided is not a complete or certified record.

Although every attempt has been made to ensure that the information contained in the database is accurate, the Secretary of State's office is not responsible for any loss, consequence, or damage resulting directly or indirectly from reliance on the accuracy, reliability, or timeliness of the information that is provided. All such information is provided "as is." To order certified copies or certificates of status, (1) locate an entity using the search; (2)select Request Certificate in the right-hand detail drawer; and (3) complete your request online.

Business

UCC

Advanced ▾

Results: 2

Home

Search

Forms

Help

Entity Information ▴ ▾	Initial Filing Date ▴ ▾	Status ▴ ▾	Entity Type ▴ ▾	Formed In ▴ ▾	Agent ▴ ▾
HIDDEN EMPIRE FILM GROUP LLC (201824310271) >	08/27/2018	Suspended - FTB	Limited Liability Company - CA	CALIFORNIA	MARK CHALANTE PHIFER
HIDDEN EMPIRE FILM GROUP LLC (201122710196) >	08/03/2011	Suspended - FTB	Limited Liability Company - CA	CALIFORNIA	VELMA SYKES

Exhibit E

From: deontaylor@me.com
To: [Darrick @ AngelOne](#); [Roxanne Supremacy](#)
Subject: Completion of Website.
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2013 7:23:44 PM

Roxanne can you please confirm with D, the final amounts Needed to close out the online work.. Also discussed with D, a bit about the 2/3 page site for Suzane.. I'd like to get a price point for this as well, so we can do all this week.

D, thanks a lot!!!
Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

Exhibit F


```
{
  "registration_information": {
    "customer_id": "59255770",
    "domain_name": "hiddenempirefilmgroup.com",
    "declared_country": "US",
    "primary_admin_email": "darrick@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com",
    "secondary_email_address": "darrick.aone@gmail.com",
    "user_cap": 1,
    "user_count": 0,
    "using_services_allowed": false,
    "is_reseller": false,
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  },
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  }
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  }, {
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    "status": "Off for everyone"
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      "status": "Off for everyone"
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      "status": "On for everyone"
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  ],
  "resold_information": {
    "bill_to_customer_id": "NA (Not a resold customer)"
  }
}
```

Exhibit G

From: [Sean Miller](#)
To: [Darrick Angelone](#)
Subject: Re: Your Google Workspace data transfer was successful for Sean Miller to Deon Taylor Assistant
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 10:53:06 AM

Copy.

Sean

On Tue, Aug 2, 2022 at 1:49 PM Darrick Angelone <darrick@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com> wrote:
This will need to be set up internally on hefg side and transfer request made there. This is an aone service being discontinued with current outstanding balance.

On Tue, Aug 2, 2022 at 13:46 Sean Miller <sean@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com> wrote:
Okay, but why is my data being transferred to the DT Asst?

Like my emails and stuff?

Sean

On Tue, Aug 2, 2022 at 1:44 PM Darrick Angelone <darrick@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com> wrote:
Accounts are being closed out and where necessary set up for transfer.

On Tue, Aug 2, 2022 at 13:25 Sean Miller <sean@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com> wrote:
What is this?

Sean

Sean Miller
Office Manager

Hidden Empire Film Group

c | 818.634.4989

o | 323.613.7120

e | sean@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com

w | www.hiddenempirefilmgroup.com

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **The Google Workspace Team** <workspace-noreply@google.com>

Date: Tue, Aug 2, 2022 at 12:59 PM

Subject: Your Google Workspace data transfer was successful for Sean Miller to Deon Taylor Assistant

To: <sean@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com>



Hello Admin,

Google Workspace recently processed a request from Darrick Angelone (darrick@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com) to transfer data for Sean Miller (sean@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com) to Deon Taylor Assistant (dtaylor_asst@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com).

The data transfer was successful.

Sincerely,

The Google Workspace Team



© 2022 Google LLC [1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043](https://www.google.com/contact)

You're receiving this mandatory email service announcement to update you about important changes to your Google Workspace product or account.

--

Warm regards,
Darrick R. Angelone

Sent while on the move... Please excuse typo and grammar issues.

--

Warm regards,
Darrick R. Angelone

Sent while on the move... Please excuse typo and grammar issues.

Exhibit H

darrick@aone.la

From: darrick@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2018 8:41 AM
To: Roxanne Avent
Subject: Re: traffik dev balance invoice attached

I am speechless!

Sent on the fly....

On Wed, Jan 17, 2018 at 8:33 AM -0800, "Roxanne Avent" <roxanneavent@gmail.com> wrote:

Wow. Now he is trying to protect our brand. How does he go from an invoice to this

Roxanne
916.257.2475

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jeff Clanagan <jclanagan@lionsgate.com>
Date: January 17, 2018 at 8:15:18 AM PST
To: Roxanne Avent <roxanneavent@gmail.com>
Cc: Roxanne <roxanne@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com>, Deon Taylor <Deontaylor@me.com>
Subject: Re: traffik dev balance invoice attached

Roxanne, I spoke to Deon about this we are good. Darrick is not contracted by my company so I am not in position to consult with him about anything at this point. We have not had any conversations. The stuff I am talking about is I am trying to keep your brand clean inside Lionsgate. As you know Lionsgate was recently served with garnishment papers for you and Deon. Then I get an invoice for social media work rendered before we even had signed agreement. I did not hire him to do any social media work nor is he in my budget or even set up as a vendor at the company. I explained to you previously I am willing to figure out a way to use him going forward, I just need to determine where he can best help and support our existing efforts. I cannot pay for something he did prior to the agreement being signed or work he was not contracted for.

JEFF CLANAGAN
PRESIDENT
2700 COLORADO AVE | SANTA MONICA 90404
JCLANAGAN@LIONSGATE.COM
CORPORATE OFFICE (424) 214-4231



From: Roxanne Avent <roxanneavent@gmail.com>
Date: Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 8:09 AM
To: Jeffery Clanagan <jclanagan@lionsgate.com>
Cc: Roxanne <roxanne@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com>, Deon Taylor <Deontaylor@me.com>
Subject: Re: traffik dev balance invoice attached

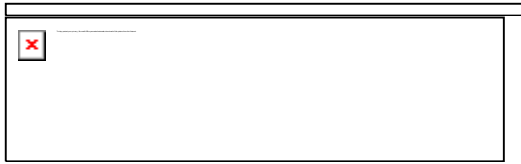
Jeff do what type of stuff?? I have no idea what your taking about. I didn't submit it. You should consult Darrick directly. I'm sure he wouldn't submit an invoice without speaking to you about it coming first and the work he has done.

Roxanne
916.257.2475

On Jan 16, 2018, at 5:01 PM, Jeff Clanagan <jclanagan@lionsgate.com> wrote:

Roxanne Lionsgate can't pay this. The work was done prior to signing of the agreement. Additionally you can't just submit an invoice with no back up. I spoke to Deon about this already. Lastly this is not in my budget. We cannot do this type of stuff.

Jeffery Clanagan
President



2700 Colorado Ave. Suite 200 | Santa Monica, CA 90404
corporate office (424) 214-4231 | production office: (818) 227-6400

[website](#) | [vCard](#) | [map](#) | [email](#)



From: Roxanne Avent <roxanneavent@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 4:59 PM
To: Jeff Clanagan <jclanagan@lionsgate.com>
Cc: Roxanne <roxanne@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com>, Deon Taylor <Deontaylor@me.com>
Subject: Re: traffik dev balance invoice attached

Hey Jeff

Approved

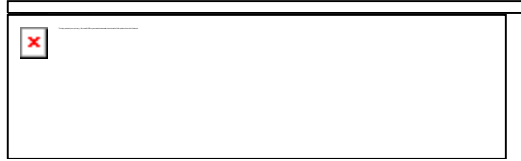
Roxanne
916.257.2475

On Jan 16, 2018, at 4:53 PM, Jeff Clanagan <jclanagan@lionsgate.com> wrote:

See attachment.

Jeffery Clanagan

President



2700 Colorado Ave. Suite 200 | Santa Monica, CA 90404
corporate office (424) 214-4231 | production office: (818) 227-6400

[website](#) | [vCard](#) | [map](#) | [email](#)



From: Darrick Angelone <darrickangelone@aoneent.com>

Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 2:10 PM

To: Jeff Clanagan <jclanagan@lionsgate.com>, Jeff Clanagan
<jeff@codeblack.com>

Subject: traffik dev balance invoice attached

Jeff,

Please find attached the balance invoice for the initial Traffik dev.
Prompt payment is required.

Darrick Angelone

darrickangelone@aoneent.com

tel: [+1 323 205 6506](tel:+13232056506)

mob: [+1 323 989 2221](tel:+13239892221)

aoneunlimited.com

<traffik dev balance invoice.pdf>

Exhibit I

From: [deon taylor](#)
To: [Mastroberte, Glen G](#)
Cc: [darrick@aone.la](#); [Quincy Newell](#); [roxanne@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com](#); [omar@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com](#); [dtlaw5@gmail.com](#)
Subject: Re: Fear Game Partnership
Date: Thursday, May 26, 2022 10:57:48 AM

Glen —

Coming up for air — we are knee deep in this project — wanted to see if you and Darell connected regarding the game — just wanted to follow up .

Thanks !

Sent from my iPhone

DEON TAYLOR
HIDDEN EMPIRE FILM GROUP
GOD WORKS ..
Passion beats Talent -

On May 24, 2022, at 11:29 AM, Mastroberte, Glen G <Glen.Mastroberte@skadden.com> wrote:

Darrell,

Please call me to discuss as soon as possible.

Darrick, in the meantime, please cease all exploitation, promotion, publicity, etc. of any game, NFT, collectables, etc. (whether for marketing purposes or otherwise) based on or incorporating any IP from the film "Fear", including the name thereof and the name and likeness of any characters therein.

Best,
Glen G. Mastroberte
Partner
Entertainment Group
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
300 South Grand Avenue | Los Angeles | California | 90071-3144
T: +1.213.687.5699 | F: +1.213.621.5699
glen.mastroberte@skadden.com

From: darrick@aone.la <darrick@aone.la>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 11:18 AM
To: 'Quincy Newell' <quincy@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com>; 'deon taylor' <deon@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com>; Mastroberte, Glen G (LAC) <Glen.Mastroberte@skadden.com>
Cc: roxanne@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com; omar@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com; dtlaw5@gmail.com
Subject: [Ext] RE: Fear Game Partnership

For context and to be more precise, the element can be found on page 30 of the marketing strategy I've previously circulated and also have attached to this email. Thank you.

Warm regards,

Darrick Angelone
AOne Creative LLC.
o: 323.205.6506 | m: 310.869.2354
aone.la

From: Quincy Newell <quincy@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 10:59 AM
To: deon taylor <deon@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com>; Glen Mastroberte <glen.mastroberte@skadden.com>
Cc: Darrick Angelone <darrick@aone.la>; roxanne@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com; omar@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com; dtlaw5@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Fear Game Partnership

Good morning all,

Looping in Glen Mastroberte who will handle discussions around your proposed digital/mobile game and the use of Hidden Empire's proprietary IP "FEAR" as the basis for the game.

Glen, will call you to give you background.

Best regards,

Quincy

QUINCY C. NEWELL | **HIDDEN EMPIRE FILM GROUP** | COO | cell: 818.455.6398 | email: quincy@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com | hiddenempirefilmgroup.com

On May 7, 2022, at 7:55 AM, deon taylor <deon@hiddenempirefilmgroup.com> wrote:

Got it !!! Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

DEON TAYLOR
HIDDEN EMPIRE FILM GROUP
GOD WORKS ..
Passion beats Talent -

On May 6, 2022, at 9:17 PM, Darrick Angelone <darrick@aone.la> wrote:

Deon,

Per our conversation Thursday morning, please find attached a detailed breakdown of the business surrounding the Fear game.

In addition to the game which is more of a marketing vehicle, we've added the classic approach of nfts as collectables. Where the potential upside for the game is limited, the collectable addition as just a revenue generator could generate \$16million for the film and cast.

Please let me know when is a good time next week that I can walk you, Roxanne and Omar through it and answer all your questions so that Darrell and Quincy can dive into formalizing a partnership, on this.

Thank you.

Fear Mobile Game Demo:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/nsx2mhatl6e3pjz/demo%20showcase.mp4?dl=0>

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Further information about the firm, a list of the Partners and their professional qualifications will be provided upon request.

=====

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I am employed in Los Angeles County, California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this action; my business address is 27001 Agoura Road, Suite 350, Calabasas, CA 91301. My email address is ynelson@kdeklaw.com.

I certify that on August 4, 2025, I served: **DECLARATION OF DEFENDANT DARRICK ANGELONE IN OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT** on the following parties or counsel of record as follows:

Felton T. Newell, Esq. Newell Law Group PC 1801 Century Park East, 24 th Floor Phone (310) 556-9663 E-mail: felton@newellpc.com ; christine@newellpc.com	<i>Counsel for Plaintiffs</i>
Justin Kian, Esq. J.T. Fox, Esq. LAW OFFICES OF JT FOX, APC 556 S. Fair Oaks Avenue, Suite 444 Pasadena, California 91105 Telephone: (888) 750-5530 - Fax: (888) 750-5530 Email: jt@jtfoxlaw.com ; justin@jtfoxlaw.com	<i>Co-Counsel for Defendants</i>

By ECF/CM: I electronically filed an accurate copy using the Court's Electronic Court Filing ("ECF") System and service was completed by electronic means by transmittal of a Notice of Electronic Filing on the registered participants of the ECF System.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America and the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at Calabasas, California on August 4, 2025.

/s/ Yolanda Nelson
 Yolanda Nelson

KRAMER, DEBOER & KEANE
 A LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP
 INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL CORPORATIONS
 27001 AGOURA ROAD, SUITE 350
 CALABASAS, CA 91301
 TELEPHONE (818) 657-0255